What will the Beast be Like?

Answers to Questions



Craig M White Version 3.0



What will the Beast be like? Answers to Questions

Authored by Craig Martin White.

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Desmond Seward cynically pondered "... modern communications made possible the Fuhrer-state [Albert Speer said]. If this is really the reason why Hitler was able to do so much more evil than Napoleon--or even only one of the reasons--then technological progress should ensure that the next 'national saviour' on the scene will be infinitely more terrible. Antichrist is yet to come. Perhaps the Emperor and the Fuhrer were merely forerunners." (*Napoleon and Hitler: A Comparative Biography*, p. 269)⁴

Related Studies

- Beast and False Prophet: Parallel Scriptures
- Comparison of Psalm 83 with Daniel 11
- History of the Extended Arm Salute
- Napoleon. A Roman Emperor
- Sequence of End-Times Events Chart
- Seven Restorations of the Romon System (repeated patterns) Chart

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 Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order by Samuel Huntington
- "Coming A New Roman Empire!" *Ambassador College Correspondence Course*, Lesson 11.

¹ Seward is a historian, not a Biblical scholar of prophecy, but he knows the cycles of history and what can occur in the future. That a 'saviour' may be needed and called on again to save Europe from a fate that would mean that it will no longer exist as a civilization due to the relentless attacks by the woke and globalist Left.

Contents

Introductory Remarks	5
Are the Beast, Babylon and Mystery Babylon the same Entity?	10
What is the Beast System in History?	13
What is the Timeline for the end-time Beast Power and its exploits?	16
Which Nations will comprise the final Beast?	21
What will the Beast look and be like?	24
Where will the Final Beast Leader originate from?	
What will be the Ideology (Religious, Social, Economic) of the coming Beast?	29
What Symbols and Regalia will the Future Beast Power use?	
Which City will be the Capital of the Beast System?	35
How does the Final Beast/Anti-Christ (and False Prophet) Compare to Christ?	
Will the Beast leader be homosexual?	
Why will the Beast attack the House of Israel?	41
Is a German-led United Europe capable of attacking the House of Israel soon?	45
Why will the Beast turn upon the Great False Church?	51
What are the Rival Views for a US of Europe? Which will succeed?	53
Is Islam the Beast?	57
Concluding Comments	58
Appendix. Quotes from The Book of Revelation by Clarence Larkin	60
Appendix. Select Quotes on the coming U.S of Europe	62
Appendix. Attempted Conquests of Britain	65
Appendix. Catholic and Other Prophecies	67
Appendix. Select Church of God Literature on the Beast	72
References	73

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Introductory Remarks

In this article, aimed mainly at those with a Church of God background or who have an understanding that there will be a united European power in the last days, will be able to easily comprehend the arguments developed herein.

For example, the Church of God's traditional understanding of the duality of the Beast political and military power with the human leader. Commentators such as John Walvoord point out:

"The identification of the head of gold with Nebuchadnezzar is a reference to the empire as personified by its ruler. As Young points out ... the reference is to the king as the symbol of the empire." (*Daniel. The Key to Prophetic Revelation*, p. 65)

The human leader and political-military system are often used in this dual sense in Scripture.

Over the centuries, there has been little knowledge of end-time events due to the confusion among the scholars of those days and their tainting with the doctrines of their church. Preterism and a-millennialism were the order of the day, though the Sabbatarians and others did foresee a 1,000-year reign of Christ on the earth, preceded by terrible times.

But only by the early nineteenth century and especially from the middle of that century on, did Millennialism and its surrounding prophetic events, begin to become more deeply researched and accepted.

There continues, however, to be many false and strange ideas about the Beast. Here is just one of them – and shows one how we can be deceived.

"The king of the Romans will ascend Golgotha upon which the wood of the Holy Cross is fixed, in the place where the Lord underwent death for us. The king will take the crown from his head and place it on the cross ad stretching out his hands to heaven will hand over the kingdom of the Christians to God the Father. The cross and the crown of the king will be taken up together into heaven ... Then every principality and power will be destroyed that the Son of Perdition may be manifest ...

"Some of our learned men say that one of the kings of the Franks who will come in the last time will possess the Roman Empire. He will come at the last time and will be the last and greatest of all rulers.

After he has successfully governed his empire, at last he will come to Jerusalem and will put off his sceptre and crown on the Mount of Olives. This will be the end and the consummation of the Roman and Christian empire. Immediately ... the Antichrist will be at hand. The then "man of Sin" will be revealed." (Bernard McGinn, *Visions of the End*, pp. 76, 86)

Here the prophecies are reversed: the Holy Roman Empire and its Emperor are the true believers who hand over leadership to Christ Himself upon His return!

Yet, the Church of God and other Sabbatarians continued to hold to a correct outline of prophecy (refer to the **Appendix. Select Church of God Literature** for a listing of some of their key booklets).

Church of God (seventh day) evangelist, John Kiesz wrote that sometime during the eighteenthcentury period, many sabbatarian folk began to believe in a future Holy Roman Empire as a fulfilment of prophecy:

> "In checking with what some of our brethren predicted after the 1844 timesetting disappointment, they stressed that the Holy Roman Empire would be revived shortly before our Lord's return." (John Kiesz in "The Way it Looks from Here", *The Harvest Field Messenger*, March-April 1990, p. 5)

In a subsequent letter to myself he wrote:

"In reference to what some of our brethren predicted after the great timesetting disappointment of 1844, they were looking for the fulfilment of the image of the Beast, the healing of the wounded Beast, the Mark of the Beast, his number of this name, and the great persecution. – *The Hope of Israel*, Vol. 1, No. 13, 1864 issue, predecessor of *The Bible Advocate*. Napoleon Bonaparte's vast Empire over which he reigned from 1804 to 1815, was the Beast that went into the bottomless pit (Revelation 17:8). – *The Hope of Israel*, Vol. III, No. 19, February 23, 1869."

Though many believed that the Roman system had been revived over the centuries, early Church of God literature talked in terms of the *Roman Empire* cooperating with the Woman of Revelation 17 instead of using the term *Holy Roman Empire*.

Here are a few early references:

Messenger of Truth:

2 Nov 1854 Article by Erastus Clark on "The Beast and His Image" – ie the RCC and mentions the Mark of the Beast (pp. 1-2).

30 Nov 1854 Letter from Sister Morrill re Erastus Clark' sermon discussing who is the Two-Horned Beast (p. 4).

Hope of Israel:

24 Aug 1863 Article on Napoleon III indicating that he may be the Antichrist and be defeated by Christ (p. 3).

10 Dec 1863 Article "Napoleon's Movements": "It is clearly evident that Napoleon is laying plans to make America one of his tributaries" it states. The article goes on to mention the French occupation in Mexico "to secure forever the power of the latin race in this country, and therefore put ad end to Anglo-Saxon influence and progress" (p. 3).

2 Oct 1866 "The Seven Headed and Ten Horned Beast of Rev. xiii" discussed (p. 2).

23 Feb 1869 "The Napoleon Empire in Prophecy – The Empire "that was, and is not, and yet is" by Alexander Keith (pp. 146-47).

In the 1880s, Church of God leader, Abraham Cauffman Long, wrote a booklet on *The Two Horned Beast of Revelation XIII*.

Andrew Dugger and the Church of God in the early decades of the twentieth century also believed that there would be a final restoration of the Roman Empire. Refer to his books *The*

Bible Home Instructor and Daniel and Revelation.

Over time these concepts were developed and fleshed out. Herbert Armstrong read widely and took the Church of God, Seventh Day beliefs and Seventh Day Adventist understandings further - but this was not unique to him as many Baptists agreed in principle about a coming US of Europe. But Mr Armstrong showed that it would be led by Germany and attack the Anglo-Keltic powers, something the others did not teach or understand.

So, although there were a few Scripture teachers who proclaimed British-Israelism, a coming 10 nation Roman restoration, previous restorations of that system, the rise of Germany, invasion of the Middle East and a future German/European-Russian clash, none of them seemed to get the full picture or assemble the prophecies into the correct sequence or meaning. It took Herbert Armstrong to do that, building upon the blocks he inherited.

Speaking of Germany², Church of God historian Herman L Hoeh who would have seen the few British-Israelite comments on this and very likely works by A J Ferris such as *When Russia Bombs Germany* (published in 1940); *The Great Tribulation; The Book of Revelation, a simple explanation and survey* (published in 1940); and *Germany's Doom Foretold*³ developed this further.

Hal Lindsay who received much of his prophetic ideas from Armstrong which were laid out in the famous *Late Great Planet Earth* (although he did get the King of the North mixed up with Russia and believed in the rapture), didn't see the German connection or who the 'lost' tribes of Israel were. In an interview around 2006 (on *WorldNetDaily* I think) he mentioned that he was heavily influenced by Herbert Armstrong's prophetic writings.

It continues to amaze me how accurate the Church of God has been in its prophetic understanding and I cannot find any other church group that approximates its understanding or been so accurate in its predictions.

Now with the above background in mind, we need to ask the following questions:

Will the Beast be Russia? A revival of Communism or a New Age religion or a New World Order based in New York? What about Islam or China? Perhaps the United Nations?

Others go further: they contend that as there are 10 horns these must be the 'lost' 10 tribes of Israel; others feel that they comprise 10 of the former Soviet Union republics; some believe that they are 10 Arabic nations mentioned in Psalm 83; yet others think that they are 10 regions of the world that unite (similar to the world system postulated by the Club of Rome – left/globalist leaning business leaders). [NB: 10 is a number for fullness or entirety in the Bible]

² Herbert Armstrong originally held the view that the Germans descended from Gomer ("What is going to happen?", *Plain Truth*, June-July 1934, p. 6). Yet by the early 1950's, he changed to accept the Assyrian origin of the Germans. ³ The understanding that the White Hittites (not to be confused with the Canaanite Hittites, descendants of Heth), was probably found in the writings of Laurence Waddell and Professor Herbert Bruce Hannay (book details in the *References* section).

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Herbert W Armstrong's chart of showing the Beast Powers (Plain Truth, November 1939)

Which is the correct interpretation?

It seems that each time there is a rising power or a system that appears beastly, it is assumed

that it is the beast. But is it? The only way to know is to look at the Scriptures carefully, historical precedence and then produce a trajectory based upon the past. The necessitates a combination of historicist, prophetic and telescopic views. This is because the Biblical application and Hebrew thinking is multi-layered (sometimes called *duality*).

However, the repetition of the Beast informs us of the future and final Beast. What will it be like and look like?^₄

⁴ This article does not explore the various Catholic and other 'prophecies' which too many take seriously, such as that of St Malachy's. Instead, I have included an **Appendix. Catholic and Other Prophecies** to address this.

Are the Beast, Babylon and Mystery Babylon the same Entity?

There are apparently overlaps, similarities but also differences between the King of the North, Beast Power, Babylon and Mystery Babylon⁵. These powers cooperate, have tensions between each other, different views and even fallings out.

They represent several different but cooperating aspects of the enemies of the House of Israel and also God Himself.

The prophecies, especially Revelation, was written to be understood in some way at least – and to be relevant – over the centuries. Both Sabbatarians and Protestants have understood what the Great Whore is, for example.

Even in 1802, authors considered the Beast power to have been based in Europe:

"... all the horns are represented as issuing from the head of the fourth beast. These two circumstances compared, imply that the original provinces of the fourth monarchy, those surrounding the imperial city, distinct from the original provinces of the three former empires, [Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome] should be thus divided into separate kingdoms. Accordingly we ought to look for them not in Babylon, not in Persia, not in Greece, **but in the European provinces of the Roman Empire**. There they have been erected. There they are still maintained" (Alexander Fraser, *A Key to the Prophecies of the Old and New Testament*, pp. 92-93) [emphasis mine]

"The monstrous wild beast, representing Antichrist, pushed at the Lamb and his followers with his horns; and these horns are **the several Sovereigns of Europe** or, in other words, the civil power." (p. 127) [emphasis mine]

There has been growing clarity in understanding of the prophecies and this has continued to progress (see Dan 12:4). For example, Benjamin Newton's book, *Progress Towards the Formation of the Ten Kingdoms* (2nd edition, 1873), attempts to explore this further:

"Ten democratic monarchies will divide between them the Roman world, and will, federally united, inaugurate, and, for a season, sustain the reign of latitudinarian Antichristianism, until at last, wearied and harassed by the confusion and strife which Latitudinarianism must necessarily engender, and desiring also a more complete annihilation of the Truth than Latitudinarianism can, in consistency with its principles, effect, the Monarchs of the Ten Kingdoms will give them-selves over to an organised system of atheistic in fidelity, will avowedly reject both Jehovah and Christ (see Psalm

⁵ "Is Babylon the Papacy in the Book of Revelation?" *Journal of the Adventist Theological Society*, Vol. 31, Nos. 1-2, 2020, pp. 63-81, Edwin E. Reynolds wrote:

[&]quot;... although the power shifted from pagan Rome to papal Rome (cf. Dan 8:9-12, 23-25), leading to the Holy Roman Empire, in which the pope crowned the kings and emperors, conferring on them divine authority to rule." (p. 67) In footnote 12 he states "The Woman is a symbol of the church, the corporate people of god in both Testaments" (ibid). He states that the Papacy experienced a deadly wound when "Napoleon's General Bertheir took the pope into captivity in 1798." (p. 73) But this was subsequently healed.

ii.), and , being of one mind, will "give their power and authority to the Beast Antichrist." (pp. 412-13) [emphasis mine] (another is by Clarence Larkin. Relevant extracts are found in **Appendix. Quotes from** *The Book of Revelation* by Clarence Larkin)

We would not agree with all that is contained within these books, but they definitely demonstrate a gradual move toward a good understanding of the prophecies of Daniel and Revelation.

Yet, there are some who still 'do not get it.' For example, the Seventh-day Adventists published an editorial "Will Europe Unite?", *Trans-Africa Division Outlook*, 15 July 1969, pp. 2-3. In the editorial they addressed an article in the *Plain Truth* by Herbert W Armstrong predicting a future United Europe: "For over a hundred years Seventh-day Adventists have been saying "publicly, on the air and in print" that there *will never* be a "United States of Europe."" (p. 2)

Time is proving Herbert Armstrong and the Church of God correct.

In any event, there will be powers which will come together in temporary cooperation like a denouement in the end times (much like under Mussolini and Hitler):

• Beast Power

A primarily European political/military block (though it would have allies such as Russia⁶, though temporarily).

• Babylon

Rev 14:8; 16:17-19; 18:1-24 (cp Is 13; 21; 47 & 48; Jer 50 & 51). A city with its commercial/economic/financial system, especially as it supports the Beast. And a religious system. This city represents two separate but cooperating aspects in its seductive, attractive, and oppressive forms: commercial and religious.

Mystery Babylon

Rev 17:1-17.

A Great False Church and her daughters also based in that city. The religious aspect of Babylon. Note that she is called a whore and a woman – this indicates it is a fallen woman. Given that a woman is typological of the church, it follows that this is a great, false church. (see ICor 11:2; IIJohn 1:13; Rev 12:13-14; Ex 34:15-16; Hos 1:2).

The identity of Rome and the Papacy with Babylon goes back centuries and there are many condemnations of Rome well into the nineteenth century by Protestant authors and ministers. Here is one from 1828:

"We may now perceive the true ground, on which Rome, throughout the Apocalypse, is denominated Babylon." (George Faber, *The Sacred Calendar of Prophecy* (Vol. II), p. 22)

⁶ There has been the ongoing love-hate between Europe and Russia over the centuries. For example France & Russia (1807 and 1859); Prussia or Germany & Russia (1804; 1887-90; 1918; 1939; and a potential treaty in 1943);

• King of the North

Dan 11:36-45.7

It has ancient roots and commencement in Assyria – a system which, as Daniel 11 shows, is the same as the Beast power that attacks the King of the South (and later the Kings of the East). This represents an aspect of the Beast which focusses on conquering the Holy Land and parts of the Middle East (there has been a long tradition of this extending back to Assyria, Babylon, Persia, Greece, Rome, Holy Roman Empire's Crusades, Napoleon, German assistance to the Ottoman Empire during WW1 and Hitler & Mussolini in WW2).

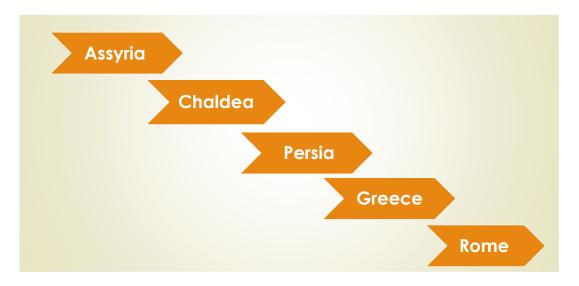
History repeats and repeats and provides us with a model or framework upon which to base forward thinking to develop an understanding of what this system will be like, represent and do.

⁷ The duality of this last portion of this chapter has been contended over for a long time. For example, Nathaniel West, *Daniel's Great Prophecy. The Eastern Question. The Kingdom*, pp. 173-88.

What is the Beast System in History?

In the first instance let us understand that a beast is a predatory, wild animal. Filled with blood lust, wiliness and cunning.

Specifically, the Beast powers either warred with or were antagonistic toward Israel over time, stamping on or attempting to destroy and scatter Israel (as well as the Church). In other words, the Beast is a military-political power comprised of gentile nations and is described as such.



The charts below provide an overview of these powers.

As usual, it will be centered in Europe and one nation will take the lead as is natural and necessary: it will be Germany again. As former German Chancellor Helmut Kohl publicly stated:

"The future will belong to the Germans - when we build the house of Europe." (quoted in Rodney Atkinson's *Europe's Full Circle. Corporate Elites and the New Fascism*, p. 107)⁸

In the 1950s, Hans Seebohm, who was a member of the Adenaur government, commented similarly:

"Germany is the heart of Europe and the limbs must adapt themselves to the heart." (Rodney Atkinson, *Fascist Europe Rising*, p. 20)

Or as Germans have said for centuries, *Der Tag - The Day*. One *Day* Frederick Barbarossa will metaphorically rise again to lead Germany triumphantly. For he is presently sleeping under the Kyffhauser in a cave, with his great red beard growing through the marble top of a table he has slumped on.

Writing in 1873, Benjamin Newtown foresaw this too:

⁸ Indeed, toward the end of WW II, senior Nazis predicted the following based on Hitler's political knowledge and nous: that Germany would be divided up, America and China would rise to become great powers, Germany would later re-unite and become a world power once again.

"The horizon of Germany is not devoid of clouds of dark and threatening aspect. The storm may be comparatively distant; but if it come, it will probably come with a violence and fury as yet unparalleled. See Heine's anticipations respecting the future of Germany. An explosion there would strike Europe more terribly than any that has occurred in France; for there is a strength and vigour and manhood in Germany that the childishness and fickleness, and quickly cowed spirit of France knows not." (*Progress Towards the Formation of the Ten Kingdoms*, p. 417)



No amount of seeking for this system anywhere else can provide a legitimate alternative theory. All of the alternatives offered are not viable Biblically or historically.

Once we have an understanding of the precedents and historical model, we will be in a position to predict the future Beast with accuracy and devoid of wild speculations and silly presuppositions.

Date restoration commenced	System	Head	Death	Married or single
A.D. 554 ⁹	1. Imperial Restoration	Justinian	Died of natural causes in 565	Married
A.D. 800	2. Frankish Kingdom (Carolingian Empire)	Charlemagne (Karl der Grosse – known as "Father of Europe" (<i>pater</i> <i>Europae)</i>)	Died in 814 of fever and pleurisy	Married

Restorations of the Roman System

⁹ The first three being removed anciently may be typological of what will occur in the last days, somewhat like Napoleon's and Hitler's replacement of leaders with their own: "He arises after the ten horn have been set up and subdues three of these ten to his own direct rule. He will then subject the other seven states to vassalage, somewhat as Hitler subjected Norway, Holland, and the Balkan countries to a leader of their local Nazi Party. In theory they were separate nations, but in practice they were subservient to Hitler. There is apparently to be a strong personality cult attached to this empire of the little horn (cf. the quasi-deification of Hitler)" (Gleason Archer, "Daniel," in Daniel-Minor Prophets, Vol. 7, *The Expositor's Bible Commentary*, p. 93)

Date restoration commenced	System	Head	Death	Married or single
A.D. 962	3. German Kingdom	Otto the Great	Died of natural causes in 973 (NB Frederick of Barbarossa was also a very significant head. He died from drowning in 1190)	Married
A.D. 1530	4. Habsburg Dynasty	Charles V	Died of natural causes in 1558	Married
A.D. 1804	5. French domination (& Confederation of the Rhine which members were princes of the old Holy Roman Empire)	Napoleon	Died in exile on St Helena Island of stomach cancer in 1821	Married
A.D. 1870-1945	6. German-Italian axis & East European allies	Bismark & Garibaldi; Wilhelm II; culminating with Hitler & Mussolini	Bismark died in 1898 of natural causes; Garibaldi died 1882 of natural causes; Wilhelm II died of natural causes in exile in the Netherlands in 1941	Married Mussolini married
			Mussolini killed by partisans. Hitler's death and whereabouts unknown – he probably shot himself and was cremated	Hitler married just prior to his death
A.D. 2???	7. Probably emerge out of the European Union with Germany dominating	Unknown	Lake of fire (Rev 20:10)	Probably be married. But divorced?
A.D.	Satan		Imprisoned in the abyss for 1,000 years (Rev 20:1-3) then released before being dealt with by God.	N/A

What is the Timeline for the end-time Beast Power and its exploits?

From precedent and assembling together the Scriptures, the following sequential stages are considered most likely to occur:

1. gradual decline of the Anglo-Keltic-Nordic powers (ie the House of Israel)

2. gradual rise of the Gentile nations and the need for Europe to assemble into a military union

3. this will probably be hastened by an economic collapse the resultant chaos and releasing of forces that will gather into a gigantic force in opposition to the House of Israel

4. possible civil war (even if only minor) within the USA that will weaken it further

5. a group of people and a power will step onto the world scene to present a case for a new world system and economic rescue as a viable alternative to the Left's globalisation and New Age ideas. It will be a modern alternative, but based on old-fashioned values, respect for religion and national pride, grouped into power blocks

6. the United Nations, World Bank, IMF will either collapse and be replaced by other institutions or be taken over and headquarters moved from the USA to Europe

7. the success of the new system economically and socially will result in it being able to fund a sparkling military to keep world peace. It will be hailed as a restoration of the Holy Roman Empire

8. a period of peace, safety and prosperity will pursue thereafter for 3 ½ years, based on old traditions, family values, national virtues. The current form of globalisation, wokeness/political correctness and Left-leaning policies will be eschewed

9. in the meantime the House of Israel (and in particular North America, Australasia, British Isles and remnants of Israel in South Africa) will suffer terrible droughts resulting in famine and disease epidemics. This will make them ripe for invasion by the Beast Power and its allies

10. the leader will have been in power for at least 3 ½ years and then be granted complete power at the cusp of the Great Tribulation

11. this Beast Power will invade a portion on the Middle East followed by invasion and enslavement of the House of Israel

But why will the Beast and other nations invade? Presumably Israel, being more liberal, will want to leave a system that has reverted to conservative values and fascism (they won't call it that, but the system will approximate that sort of ideology) and to get revenge for centuries of Anglo-Keltic winning of wars and culminating in world leadership. There will also be stark differences in religious beliefs and systems. Why not, at last, rid the world of these people once and for all? 12. as prophecies indicate that Israel will be divided up amongst her enemies, this seems to mean that they will be in alliance with Russia, China, India, Mexico etc

"In 1932 Joseph Stalin ... And in the 1970s Idi Amin ... These examples are not really exceptional;¹⁰ such episodes pervade history. Not does one have to dig deeply to come ups with cruelties perpetrated by the more 'refined' Western democracies. **Daniel's vision is telling us that history** *is* **beastly; it is scary**. He wants us to hold a clear realism about life in this world." (Dale Davis, *The*

¹⁰ The world – especially the Western world – enjoyed unprecedented blessings and freedoms since the 1950s, probably peeking by the 1990s with a very gradual decline since. Sinister and controlling forces are gaining control step-by-step and are strangling democracy which will only accelerate and worsen over the years. In 2021 a number of alarm bells have been rung by conservatives and even the Centre-Left. You can find these warnings by Gabriel Buckly, Peter Hartcher and Prof. Haines listed in the *References*.

Message of Daniel, p. 97). [emphasis mine]

13. the Beast has a falling out with its eastern allies and goes to war against them14. the system will morph from a Holy Roman Empire into an Emperor worshipping Roman Empire and it turns upon the Great False Church as the Beast will want to be worshipped in lieu.



Purple, scarlet, gold and jewels (Rev 17:4)

15. the forces of the combined east will smash into Europe and the final World War will reach its peak

16. without Christ's intervention all of mankind will perish.

A more complete and detailed chart of end-time events can be downloaded <u>here</u>.

System/Dictator	Deficiency in terms of HRE linkages	Two legs issues	Comment	Major and World Wars
Roman Empire	Pre-RCC during most of its existence	Divided into Western and Eastern Empires	Emperor worship. Takes over Middle East and had plans for India.	Ongoing wars.
1-3. Various HRE emperors and restorations	None		'Wounded' Roman system revived from the East. Confederation, not a totalitarian system. A few conflicts with the RCC over power.	Teutonic Knights invade Baltic area and part of Russia (1300s-1500s). Crusaders invade Middle East. French and Slavic wars 8 Crusades against the Islamics (1096- 1291)
4. Habsburg Dynasty	None	Hapsburg's territories in the east formed the Eastern leg (Austria,		Habsburg/HRE wars against the Ottomans (1500s-1700s) Thirty Years War (1618-48) begun by

Comparing certain Roman Empire Revivals – Confirmations & Deficiencies

System/Dictator	Deficiency in terms of HRE linkages	Two legs issues	Comment	Major and World Wars
		Bohemia, Hungary etc)		Emperor Ferdinand II – Protestant vs RCC and centered mainly around German states. France joined against the Habsburgs. In essence it was a European Civil War. 8 million died. The Ottoman Empire and Russia sided with the anti-Hapsburg coalition. Seven Years War (1756-1763) spanning Europe, Americas, West Africa, India, Philippines. It involved UK & allies vs France and Holy Roman Empire. (NB 100 years war England vs France 1337-1453AD.)
5. Napoleon	Non-German. Did not gain the Imperial regalia. Turned on the RCC. Was a deist	Included a north- western zone called 'Confederation of the Rhine'. Austria remained separate	Crowned himself. ¹¹ Politically 'wounded' in 1814 and revived his chances in 1815. "Napoleon's attitude toward religion was ambivalent; his deepest belief appears to have been in the idea	Invaded Egypt (1798- 1801) and Russia (1812) with a large no. of German troops. Attempts at revival (1815). His wars spilled over into North America, South America and Egypt.

¹¹ Interestingly, Frederick II (King of Sicily, King of Italy, King of Germany and then Holy Roman Emperor 1220-50) crowned himself King of Jerusalem. He also opposed the Catholic Church due to its efforts to limit the power of the State. It was Pope vs Emperor again which meant war. He was even compared with the Ant-Christ due his enlightened views and that the religious and civil authorities must be completely separate.

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

[&]quot;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) Mussolini was antagonistic toward the Catholic Church. Hitler was more so and even had plans to take the Pope captive. David Kertzer's book, *The Pope at War: The Secret History of Pius XII, Mussolini and Hitler* provides insights and you can also read his article on this in "The Popes Secret Back Channel to Hitler," *The Atlantic*, 31 May 2022.

System/Dictator	Deficiency in terms of HRE linkages	Two legs issues	Comment	Major and World Wars
	IIIIGES		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''' (<i>Napoleon in</i> <i>Egypt</i> by Paul Strathern, p 54).	
6. Bismarck and Germany up to WW1	Did not have a concordat with the RCC (unlike all the others). Bismarck Protestant, not Catholic. Prussian, Protestant north dominated the Empire, not the RCC Catholic south/Bavaria	Cooperation of Germany and Austro-Hungarian Empire		Bismarck undertook several wars to unify Germany, viz Danish War (1864) inc Franco War (1866); Austro War (1870). This period until 1945 is sometimes labelled 'the modern 100 years war.' In WW1 Russia invaded (particularly Ukraine). Planned to invade India and to expand presence in the Middle East. Assisted the Turks in the Middle East.
6. Mussolini	Italy/Rome subservient to Hitler. He was an athiest	Second of 3 blocs working with Hitler (3 rd comprised eastern European nations)	He was an athiest but signed a concordat with Vatican.	Invaded North Africa to revive the Roman Empire. Later assisted by Germany.
6. Hitler and Germany up to WW2	Planned to emasculate the RCC. A deist, but signed a concordat in Rome in 1933	Cooperation from fascist dictators in the east. Absorbed Austria	Militarily 'wounded' in war but revives his chances in Battle of the Bulge and smaller victories in the east. Literally wounded by a bomb and	Invaded North Africa. Invades Russia and plans to invade India with Japan (NB: Vichy France initially controlled most of West Africa, Syria and Lebanon plus other territories

System/Dictator	Deficiency in terms of HRE linkages	Two legs issues	Comment	Major and World Wars
			survives the assassination attempt.	around the world). Hitler literally wounded by a bomb. [NB WW1 & WW2 are sometimes regarded as two parts to the same war. Some even label it 'the second Thirty Years War.']
7. Final Beast dictator	Turns on the RCC, destroying it. Does the False Prophet switch from being head of RCC to promoting Emperor worship?	Will be comprised 5 nations or groups of nations in each Western and Eastern Europe. Plus allies around the world	Probably invade Russia and Middle East and also India. Full circle back to Roman Emperor worship and conflict with 'Christianity'. Probably be 'wounded' in some way.	Will attack and destroy the Anglo- Keltic nations
Satan			Uses same ongoing system, but prefers to be worshipped through a man. Is placed into the pit but released after 1,000 years. Similar to Napoleon's and Hitler's political wounds and revivals.	

NB: was the One Hundred Years War the real first major war or the Crusades were, the Thirty Years War a world war, the Seven Years War the third major or world war; the Napoleonic wars the fourth world war; the Great War (World War One) the fifth world war; and World War Two actually the sixth world war? So, there is one more to go?¹²

¹² Here is another point of view presented to me:

Here is another possibility for seven global wars:

^{1.} Habsburg wars culminating in Thirty Years War.

^{2.} Wars of Louis XIV: nine years war/ war of Spanish succession.

^{3.} Wars of Louis XV: Austrian succession and Seven Years' War.

^{4.} American revolution: which became a world war.

^{5.} French revolutionary/Napoleonic wars.

^{6.} World War I/World War II: both started by German Reich and seen by some historians as a single conflict.

^{7.} World War III precipitated by German/Austrian led final revival of the Holy Roman Empire.

Which Nations will comprise the final Beast?

Since the early 1950s and in many articles and sermons thereafter, the Church of God predicted that the eastern European nations under Russian Soviet control would break away and unite with those of western Europe. Here are three examples:

"Russia may give East Germany back to the Germans and will be forced to relinquish her control over Hungary, Czechoslovakia and parts of Austria to complete the 10-nation union." ("Will German Rearmament Stop Russia?", *The Good News*, April 1952, p. 16)

"The United States is determined, now, to let nothing stand in the way of building up a re-armed, independent Germany. This will be *the heart and core of the united Europe* that will revive the Roman Empire" ("Hitler", *Plain Truth*, June 1952, p. 2).

"When the right psychological moment arrives, a number of these nations will break away from Moscow, and the world will then be stunned to learn that they had previously entered into a secret pact allying themselves with Germany, Italy, Spain and other European nations in a fascist united Europe! Another most significant evidence of this trend, showing that these satellite nations are in actual fact breaking away from Moscow and turning more toward the West, is the fact that Roman Catholics in these countries are again being allowed their liberties." ("Inside Truth about the Hungary Revolt", *Plain Truth*, January 1957, p. 20)

The coming Power will be Gentile and listed below are some of the nations that will comprise it:

- Germany
- France
- Italy
- Spain
- Portugal
- Belgium
- Austria
- Poland
- Hungary
- Romania
- Bulgaria
- Greece
- The former nations of Yugoslavia
- Perhaps the Baltic states and tiny states such as Luxembourg and perhaps Switzerland.

Note that the above list consists of more than 10 nations – perhaps there will be 10 kings in restored monarchies some which will rule over more than one nation.

No doubt this emerging European Power will be allied, although temporarily, with Russia and others.

Writing in 1928 (updated 1934) L. Sale-Harrison in *The Resurrection of the Old Roman Empire* noted:

"First, there should be indications that ten kings will together hold the territory of the old Roman Empire" (p. 16)

Recall that the Turks destroyed Constantinople in 1403 AD and the Eastern Empire came to a close.¹³ However, some aspects of the Eastern Empire transferred to Imperial Russia under the auspices of Ivan III (the Great) who was regarded as the first national sovereign of Russia:

"By his marriage in 1472 to Zoë (Sophia), niece of the last Byzantine emperor, Constantine XI Palaeologus, Ivan also made creditable his claim to be the protector of the Orthodox church. Soon after his marriage Ivan added the two-headed eagle of the Byzantine escutcheon to his own coat of arms and, modeling his regime on that of the autocratic Byzantine rulers, drastically curtailed the powers and privileges of the other Russian princes and the Russian aristocracy. Ivan also issued the first Muscovite legal code in 1497." ("Ivan III Vasilyevich," *Microsoft Encarta*)

His marriage to Zoë was arranged by the pope in the hope of bringing the Russians into the Roman church. Instead

"The marriage was of importance in establishing the claim of Russian rulers to be the successors of the Greek emperors and the protectors of Orthodox Christianity (theory of the Three Romes, of which Moscow was to be the third and last ... Ivan took the title of Tsar, i.e. Caesar and the practice of court ceremonial)". (William Langer, *Encyclopedia of World History*, p. 342)¹⁴

This shows us that a few fragments of the Eastern Empire were transferred, politically, to Russia and it may be that this could lead to rivalry between the future Holy Roman Empire and an Imperial Russia. But in reality, the Austro-Hungarian Empire absorbed the Eastern leg of the Empire system and not Russia¹⁵ (I am not here excluding the possibility of a German-led United

¹³ Note that their first and last leaders had the name of Constantine as Rome's first and last leaders were also known as Romulus. Perhaps, as the first Holy Roman Emperor was called Charlemagne or Karl der Grosse, so the final Emperor may well also carry this name?

¹⁴ Historians regard the concept of the "Third Rome" to be a myth.

¹⁵ According to Fjordman "A New Balance Between Rome and Jerusalem", *The Brussels Journal*, 28 June 2007: "The Carolingian Empire, which was a **deliberate attempt to revive the Roman Empire in the West**, at this point encompassed France, Germany and much of Central Europe plus Italy down to Rome, but was divided into three parts in 843. The eastern third, with its heartland in today's Germany, later became known as the Holy Roman Empire and lasted for another thousand years, one way or the other. This is somewhat ironic, given that most of Germany was never included in the original Roman Empire. Following Germanic traditions, the Emperors had to be elected and gave concessions in order to win favors, which weakened their authority. Still, some families such as the House of Habsburg dominated the list of emperors for centuries. They also dominated **the successor to the Holy Roman Empire, the Austrian Empire, which later merged into the dual monarchy of Austria-Hungary** until it was dissolved after World War I." [emphasis mine]

Other writers similarly note this, such as Strakosch, *Origins of the Great War*, p. 4: "Austro-Hungarian Empire, often referred to as Austria, Vienna or **'The Dual Monarchy' the successor to the Holy Roman Empire from which it derived the heraldic device of the double-headed eagle**. The monarch was both Emperor of Austria and King of Hungary and his Empire encompassed a large part of Europe which now consists of Austria, Hungary, The Czech Republic, Slovakia, and parts of the Balkan nations, Poland and The Ukraine." [emphasis mine] Similarly, according to the *Encyclopedia of World Biography*, Francis II **"by proclaiming himself emperor of Austria in 1804 ... did result in the preservation of an imperial title for the Hapsburgs after 1806** [he reigned as Emperor of Austria until 1835

Europe and Russian cooperation for some time prior to their falling out).

Watch for a United Europe promising Russia the return of Alaska if she cooperates with any future European-American conflict.



Beset on all sides – a weakened America will be ripe for invasion and captivity

Mexico could be offered the south-west United States; the Caribbean offered Florida; and China or Japan offered Hawaii. A United Europe would take the rest, enjoying the fruits of their labour (several prophecies indicate that Israel will be divided up among her enemies: Amos 7:17; Mic 2:4; Dan 11:39).

How could the House of Israel, with an immense array of forces against them, have any hope of surviving catastrophe? It is just not possible.

with the title lasting until 1918] ... The German Confederation, a loose association of Central European states was created by the Congress of Vienna in 1815 **to organize the surviving states of the Holy Roman Empire**. The federal diet met at Frankfurt under Austrian presidency (in fact the Habsburg Emperor was represented by an Austrian 'presidential envoy')." [emphasis mine] In this way, the Holy Roman Empire in both the West and East continued into the German Empire under Bismark – the Second Reich.

What will the Beast look and be like?

The Bible provides some clues as to what to look for in the final Beast or Anti-Christ¹⁶ and I list these below with comments which, I trust, throws some light on the subject.

"The spirit of the Antichristian government is represented chiefly by three characters, arrogance, idolatry, and persecution." (Alexander Fraser, *A Key to the Prophecies of the Old and New Testament* (1802), p. 113)

Fraser is correct and definitely on to something, but there is much more detail that we can enter into.

A bold face – Daniel 8:23

His looks will be rather kingly and strong (a 'king face' is the term used). His capacity and understanding second to none. His deceitfulness and cunning beyond compare.

"And at the latter end of their kingdom, when the transgressors have reached their limit, a king **of bold face**, one who understands riddles, shall arise." (ESV)

"And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of **fierce countenance**, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up." (KJV)

Understands complexities and cunning

Note what is written about the final Beast/Anti-Christ in Dan 8:23:

"And at the latter end of their kingdom, when the transgressors have reached their limit, a king of bold face, one **who understands riddles**, shall arise." (ESV)

"And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and **understanding dark sentences**, shall stand up." (KJV)

Compare the above with:

"With him will I speak mouth to mouth, even apparently, and **not in dark speeches**; and the similitude of the LORD shall he behold." (Num 12:8)

Benson's Commentary:

"Not in dark speeches — Not in parables, similitudes, dark resemblances; as by showing a boiling pot and an almond-tree to Jeremiah; a basket of summer

¹⁶ "Thus Paul designates "the Rebel" – from the divine perspective and in the ancient language of the KJV – as "the son of perdition," meaning the "man doomed to destruction." (Gordon Fee, *The First and Second Letters to the Thessalonians, The New International Commentary on the New Testament*, p. 282)

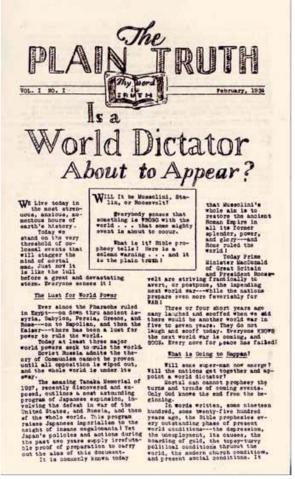
[&]quot;From the description given ... it is clear that Paul has in mind the same figure referred to in IJohn 2:18 as the "antichrist" and in Revelation 13 as the "beast."" (Michael Holmes, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, NIV Application Commentary, p. 238)

fruits to Amos; a chariot with wheels, &c., to Ezekiel."

Clarke's Commentary:

"If there be a prophet - We see here the different ways in which God usually made himself known to the prophets, viz., by visions - emblematic appearances, and by dreams, in which the future was announced by dark speeches, הידת bechidoth, by enigmas or figurative representations, Num 12:8. But to Moses God had communicated himself in a different way - he spoke to him face to face, apparently, showing him his glory: **not in dark or enigmatical speeches**; this could not be admitted in the case in which Moses was engaged, for he was to receive laws by Divine inspiration, the precepts and expressions of which must all be ad captum vulgi, **within the reach of the meanest capacity**. As Moses, therefore, was chosen of God to be the lawgiver, so was he chosen to see these laws duly enforced for the benefit of the people among whom he presided." [Emphasis mine] [Comment: how different to God where He will be straight-forward; at other times parables etc are utilised. Cp Ps 78:1-4]

This means that he is ultra-intelligent and can see through any foreign policy and other deceptions against him with ease and deploy the necessary counter-measures.



The Plain Truth, February 1934 (Vol. 1, No. 1)

Deceitfulness

"His power shall be great—but not by his own power; and he shall cause fearful destruction and shall succeed in what he does, and destroy mighty men [of Israel] and the people who are the saints." [ie Israel and sections of the Church]

By his cunning **he shall make deceit prosper** under his hand, and in his own mind he shall become great [how like Napoleon, Wilhelm II and Hitler]. Without warning he shall destroy many. And he shall even rise up against the Prince of princes, and he shall be broken—but by no human hand." (Dan 8:24-25 ESV)

- The deceit he is involved in is Strong's #4820 and involves treachery, dishonesty, deceptiveness etc. He will offer 'peace in our time.'
- "He shall seduce with flattery those who violate the covenant [traitors in the House of Israel], but the people who know their God shall stand firm and take action." (Dan 11:32). What happened anciently is a type of what is to come.

Relative Peace – initially

- I have long held the view that he will have a covenant or treaty with the House of Israel in the last days. In fact, there will probably be a 3 ½ year period of relative world stability and prosperity with the German-led Europe as the world's policeman and economic saviour.
- Why, Israel's leaders will probably think, should we put so much money into defence in such a case? (Cp Is 28:18) Let Europe take charge they may think as Israel will have many internal issues to deal with (including, probably, civil wars).
- While people are saying, ""There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them [Israel] as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape." (IThess 5:3)

Attempted assassination and miracles?

- Something will happen perhaps an attempted assassination (Rev 13:3) similar to Hitler's. And also militarily/politically with the revival of the Roman Empire and both Napoleon's and also Hitler's attempts at comebacks both were defeated by the House of Israel (together with their gentile allies), but this time it will take God Himself to crush these forces.
- Are these a type of what will happen in the future?

"Whether the death is real or faked (cf. v.14; 2 Thess. 2:9) is not clear ... Antichrist's alleged death and resurrection will be a counterfeit of Christ's death and resurrection, staged, as one of the 'lying wonders' perpetrated by the false prophet (13:12-15; 2 Thess. 2:9 NKJV). Antichrist's death will be phony since he never really died". (John MacArthur, "Revelation 12–22." *The MacArthur New Testament Commentary*, pp. 45-46)

- As only God can resurrect (the Devil cannot), it is unlikely that he will be fully dead. Perhaps clinically dead in the sense of no heartbeat etc for a minute of two; or in a coma. In any event, he counterfeits Christ.
- This will lead to his worship and increased rivalry with the Great False Church.
- Many will see this as the coming of Christ (IIThess 2:9 compared to verse 8) accompanied

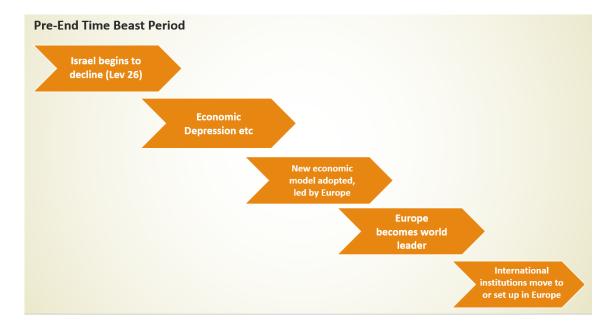
by amazing miracles and wonders that could even deceive the elect (Matt 24:24).

"... when they see such a miracle wrought in the person of Antichrist – namely, in his resurrection from the dead [probably a coma], and his speaking deathdealing effigy – there will be no room left for further scepticism, and they will at once render Divine homage to the man of sin or lawless one ... that manworship, which will be one of the worst signs of the last times.

... he will become supreme king of revived Rome. To this dignity he will be elevated by the ten kings of eastern and western Rome ... thus electing Antichrist as Emperor ... as in the case of his prototypes, the two Napoleons ..." (E. Hytche, "The Doom of the Antichrist", *The Prophetic News and Israel's Watchman*, June (1882), p. 173)

Worshipped like a Roman Emperor

- He will wish to be worshipped like a Roman Emperor a god (Dan 11:37; Rev 13:4)
- Consider precedents of the latter Roman Emperors being considered as gods; Napoleon behaved god-like; Wilhelm II enacted Christ's entry into Jerusalem on a Sabbath riding on white horse; Goebbels called Hitler a god; Mussolini likened himself to God.
- This would lead to a falling out with the Great Church.



Where will the Final Beast Leader originate from?

It has been suggested on certain websites, that Herbert W Armstrong read Robert Anderson's *The Coming Prince* (published in 1894) which then influenced his prophetic understanding.

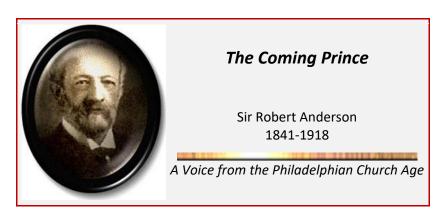
I have been through that book and see little similarity, except some small parts about the Crucifixion and a future 10 nation confederacy (pp. 140-41). HWA may have read it, but there is little evidence for that and makes little difference in any event. However, I do note that this book places Germany outside of the Antichrist's control (p. 141) and the lion of Daniel 7 as England – both are false ideas and completely opposite to what Mr Armstrong and the Church of God taught for decades.

I do note however that on page 89 he states "That Antichrist is to arise from the eastern part of the Roman empire."

I find this of interest because in my book *The Great German Nation* I mention that the coming German-led US of Europe "Will comprise of 5 nations or groups of nations in each Western and Eastern Europe. The Beast himself may come from the eastern leg, particularly Austria. Notice in Dan 7:8 & 8:9 he comes from the east."

Consider that the understanding who and what the Beast concept was continued to mature and grow over the centuries. See *Prophetic Faith of our Fathers* by Leroy Froom (I have all 4 volumes and they are well worth a read) for evidence of this.

As I mentioned at the outset, the Beast himself may come from the eastern leg of the next Roman revival, particularly Austria (in German *Kaiser von Oesterreich*). I see the little horn¹⁷ who was typed by Antiochus Epiphanes as possibly dual. Antiochus Epiphanes was a Greek king and type of the Beast. Note also that Hitler was born in Austria. These two types may indicate that the future European Emperor will be from the east and not Germany per se, though would be of German stock like most Holy Roman Emperors.



¹⁷ "... "the little horn" of Dan, 7, the one which came up after the ten horns, is the antichrist, and "the little horn" of Dan. 8, the one which came up out of one of the four notable horns, is Antiochus Epiphanes, antichrist's most notorious forerunner ..." (William Hendrickson, *Thessalonians, New Testament Commentary*, p. 177).

What will be the Ideology (Religious, Social, Economic) of the coming Beast?

Religion

If we look at the resurrections of the old Holy Roman Empire and its Catholic dominance, that should provide us with a clue to the future.

Consider Napoleon's, Mussolini's¹⁸ and Hitler's initial Concordat's with the Vatican. But Napoleon took two Pope's into captivity and Hitler had definite plans to do the same (both of these men were deists). Mussolini was an atheist until his death.

This new system will commence as a restoration of the Holy Roman Empire in cooperation with the Church, but will morph into Roman Emperor worship with ensuing rivalry between the two, ending in disaster for the Church (Rev 17:16).

Social values

The values will be conservative and the strong hand of leaders in Europe will finally wipe out the Liberal-Left and neo-Marxists once and for all. The ideologies of the Woke and Globalist elites will be modified if not swept aside for a new, conservative set of values, but keeping in place some social reforms and progress.

They will likely represent themselves as not only the saviours of Western Civilization (the peoples, art, music, architecture, history, family unit) but also of basic old-fashioned values with initial support from many areas of the world worried about the gradual undermining of their families, religions, and nations.

The promotion of the family unit and nationhood (in a civilizational and cultural context), the eschewing of post-modernism and decadence will be the order of the day.

This follows the model set by Napoleon, Mussolini, Hitler and the fascist dictators of eastern Europe and Iberia (the latter both before and after WW2).

Economic policy

As with the dictators referred to above, this system will not take Europe back to the feudalism Middle Ages, Instead, it will be modern and seek to uplift the general populace. Consider that Napoleon and Mussolini started off on the Left, drifting to the radical Right but bringing with them social and economic reforms. Hitler, on the other hand, was always radical Right, but the original National Socialist Party had some economic socialist credentials, most of which Hitler eschewed to gain and keep power – and to gain favour and support with the old aristrocratic class, bankers and industrialists.

All three turned around their terrible economies by applying government intervention and support of private enterprise.

Napoleon in particular implemented legal, social, education and economic reforms. The country was stabilized and he was then able to pursue his dream of a United Europe.

¹⁸ Mussolini's relationship with the Vatican was not always smooth. Read Peter Kent, "How Pius came to regret his deal with the duce: The Pope and Mussolini," *The Irish Times*, 24 May 2014.

From the above we can deduce that Europe and its allies will forge some sort of modern version of fascism, adoring the Holy Roman and even the Roman Empires.

Today there are a number of conservative, Centre-Right and populist parties that are gaining power or on the rise. The leftwing media and even some churches think that these are fascists or Nazis wishing to forge a fascist Europe. But these parties are not Far Right (fascist or Nazi). Their views are similar to Reagan's or Churchill's. They are conservatives, but to the media they are "Far Right." They will know all about it when the real Far Right eventually gain power in Europe and other places.¹⁹

Some day and in some way, there will be a backlash in Europe, and it will slide toward some sort of fascism, eschewing globalisation and the woke agenda. Even Centre-Right parties can slide toward fascism or there might be new parties that might arise.

Or there could be uprisings and revolutions that will overthrow the Woke Left. In some countries there might be military coups.

However this all comes about, be assured that true extreme Right will gain power and turn against the Anglo-Keltic Powers.

¹⁹ The fact is that the old Worldwide Church of God stopped publishing anything on the rise of Nazism by 1972. It just won't happen because each resurrection of the Roman System has its own flavour though the basics are similar. There is no way other European nations will ever except Nazism again.

What Symbols and Regalia will the Future Beast Power use?

The European Union currently possesses a flag, anthem and annual public day. But what other symbols and emblems might the future regime have?

One of the most prominent symbols of ancient Assyria was the eagle: is this where many of the eagle symbols of Central Europe originate? (Donald Mackenzie, *The Migration of Symbols and their Relations to Beliefs and Customs*, pp. 343-345) Comparisons have been made between the Nazi eagle with spread-out wings and that utilised by the Assyrians.

All empires utilise symbols and emblems to create identity, maximize its glory and to honour itself. So what sort of symbols will the coming German-led European Union use?

Ancient Symbols – Modern Usage

It seems that as the final European Union evolves more and more into a dictatorship, it will begin to hearken back to its roots in the Roman and Holy Roman systems and utilise the symbols of old.



Crown of the Holy Roman Emperor in all its glory

In addition to the Roman Eagle used by both Napoleon and Hitler, we could see arise the doubleheaded Eagle representing the co-operation of Western and Eastern Europe (as well as the Church); the Imperial Crown representing the Emperor as temporal ruler and regent of Christ on earth (it includes the cross, an octagonal shape representing the heavenly Jerusalem and 12 stones supposedly representing the tribes of Israel); and the Holy Lance (also known as the Spear of Destiny) which mythologically pierced Christ - this was politically the most important relic (*The Rigby Joy of Knowledge Library. History and Culture 1*, p. 160) because it may be traced in history to Jerusalem via Italy, Lombardy and Burgundy. Tests undertaken on the spear indicates that it may be traced back to several centuries after Christ. However, a small metal strip within it may be much older. Nevertheless, it remains central to Holy Roman Empire regalia.

The cross, too, will be a very important symbol. These insignia originated with the Sumerian, Babylonian and Assyrian empires: the crown, the hat of the King of the Heavens; the sceptre, orb and star mantle represent the claim to rule the entire world and beyond; the vestments are

those of a high priest; the throne a triumphal chariot; the solemn processions of the Emperor under a canopy representing heaven; he has a sacred ritual observance including prayer and recalls his predecessors.²⁰

These insignia reside today in the Treasure House, Vienna, awaiting another Emperor to claim them and fulfill his dream of world peace and a new order led by a United Europe. The creation of peace was the goal of the Emperor's as well as the kings, princes, bishops, abbots and other leaders as they debated back and forth in their imperial diets. At times they unleashed holy wars to cause peace (in their estimation). In the tradition of the Holy Roman Empire, the Roman Catholic Church champions peace and is becoming more and more involved with affairs in Jerusalem, the centre of so much conflict (see Friedrich Heer, *The Holy Roman Empire*, p. 284).



Regalia of the Holy Roman Empire

All Holy Roman Emperors wore or utilised these symbols, as a representative of the god of the heavens upon the earth. While Hitler did not wear them, he had them removed in March 1938 from Vienna and taken to Nuremburg for safe keeping. Only Napoleon of all the European emperors was not able to obtain them, which is interesting, given that he was of non-German/Austrian stock unlike most of the Holy Roman Emperors.²¹

As one researcher wisely stated:

²⁰ The Roman Empire also had its own variations of the cross and swastika. This variation is known as the 'Roman holy cross' which has a swastika at its centre. It contains 3 spokes at all 4 ends with a dot near each corner (source: <u>www.symbols.com</u>)

²¹ 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**." (James Bryce, *The Holy Roman Empire*, pp. 354-55) [emphasis mine]

"... perhaps the Imperial Crown may come to be seen yet again as a symbol of a political order that some wish to reinstate, with all the dire consequences this would entail." (Dagmar Paulus, *From Charlemagne to Hitler: The Imperial Crown of the Holy Roman Empire and its Symbolism*, p. 15).

Double-headed Eagle

The Empire generally portrayed a sense of freedom, well-being, prosperity. It had great celebrations, banquets, festivals, wars, 'war dramas', mock battles and so forth. It was not a totalitarian dictatorship, but power was given to the Emperor to perform his duties to govern Europe. It will be so again.

"The charters of the emperors of the Holy Roman Empire invoke the One and Undivided Trinity and promise peace 'to the faithful of God and of the Empire', employing a sacral formula which goes back to ancient Roman and pre-Roman times." (Friedrich Heer, *The Holy Roman Empire*, p. 6)

The double-headed eagle in particular has ancient origins: for in Mesopotamia, we find doubleheaded beast motives used extensively from the earliest of times (Gordon Childe, *New Light on the Most Ancient East*, p. 81) by the Holy Roman Emperors and later the Austro-Hungarian and Russian Empires. In Europe the double-headed eagle, in its most famous form, is in Vienna. This is where the Imperial Crown has resided for most years since 1801). Since the fall of Communism the double-headed eagle became the official crest of Albania and Montenegro.²²



Austro-Hungarian Double-headed Eagle

The single-headed eagle dates from at least the Roman Empire²³ representing its single dominance over the region. The eagle was regarded as king of the skies and glorious to behold. But it was Constantine who devolved the Empire into two halves²⁴, the Eastern half based in

²² Further information on the Mesopotamian origin and history of the double-headed eagle may be found at <u>http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eagle (heraldry)</u>

²³ There is evidence that the use of this curious beast dates back to the ancient Middle East.

²⁴ This was predicted by the Church of God since the early 1950s and was iterated by Herbert W Armstrong in 1976: "The cover story of this week's *Time* shows many Eastern European nations within the 'Iron Curtain' of communism, looking at Western prosperity, becoming more and more dissatisfied with Russian domination. This sets the stage for some of these Communist nations—possibly East Germany, Poland, Romania, etc.—breaking with Moscow in the event of the resurrection of the 'Holy Roman Empire' and coming into the new United Europe" (*Co-worker and Member Letter*, 22 April).

Constantinople. From then on, the Empire and thus Europe, functioned in two parts. Speaking figuratively, the neck of this curious creature ran down through the Balkans: on its western side the precursor of modern Croatia, Slovenia and Bosnia. And on the eastern side we find Serbia and Greece. The East fell to the Muslim Turks, who sent invaders into southeast Europe. In time they learned to tolerate the Eastern Orthodox Churches that evolved in a different fashion to the Roman Catholic Church. The Turks almost took Vienna, but were pushed back by the Habsburgs, who subsequently took over much of the western Balkans over the subsequent centuries. In the twentieth century, various states, Serbia in particular, asserted their independence. The Balkans were now permanently split: peoples of the same Slavic race practiced different forms of Christianity, spoke different dialects, and even the architecture differed. All of this is traced back to Constantine's decree, and may be found symbolised by the double-headed eagle.²⁵

When the new Holy Roman Empire comes – a militaristic United Europe (of which the current European Union may be the genesis or forerunner), it will probably be full of pomp and ceremony, drawing upon the history of Europe: one can imagine the coming glorious ceremonies, pageants, symbolism, historical parades with soldiers dressed in Roman uniforms together with intense teaching of Roman and Holy Roman history in schools and colleges. Western civilisation saved and re-born!

Extract from *The Holy Roman Empire* by Friedrich Heer

"We know that the holy lance was very early regarded as a relic in the narrowly ecclesiastical sense. In the oldest inventories the **holy lance**, together with the fragments of the **true cross**, takes precedence over the imperial crown ...

"These relics of the Holy Roman Empire are relics of a world order founded on the sacred households of the God-Emperor in heaven and upon earth which endured for five thousand years. Today people look at them as one looks at a spectacle and at works of art - yet once they were what men believed in and the condensed manifestation of the Empire's saving power. There they are: the **imperial crown**, a sacred octagon combining the earthly and the heavenly Jerusalem, surmounted by the bow which demands that the kings of the earth pay due service to the King who is Emperor in heaven as upon the earth; **the imperial sword**, always borne point uppermost, whose inscription - *Christus vincit* - *Christus regnat* - *Christus imperat* - echoes the ancient victory song addressed to the victorious *Christus imperat* - echoes the ancient victory song addressed to the victories; **the Hohenstaufen orb**, which ascribes to the Emperor, by placing the globe in his hand, the attributes of Jupiter, in antiquity the orb was surmounted by Nike the victory goddess, in the Holy Roman Empire by the cross. Emperor Otto I had once worn the star-strewn mantle and the tunic fringed with tintinnabula, part of the vestment of the high priest." (p. 283) [emphasis mine]

²⁵ It may be traced to Mesopotamia according to Friedrich Heer, *The Holy Roman Empire*, p. 3

Which City will be the Capital of the Beast System?

The Roman Empire and later the Catholic Church had Rome as their capital. But the Holy Roman Empire, being rather decentralised, it varied.

Aachen was where Charlemagne was crowned and it as well as various castles in the Rhineland functioned as capitals over time. Various abodes were considered as the centre of government and for a time the chief residence of elected Emperors was Prague.

When the Hapsburg dynasty was in power, Vienna became their capital for centuries.

Today Brussels is the capital of the European Union.

The question is whether Rome, Vienna, Berlin or some other city will become the political and military capital of a United Europe (with Rome remaining the religious capital).

Consider this: over time Europe has experienced the rise and fall of the **First Reich** (the Holy Roman Empire of the German Nation or *Sacrum Romanum Imperium Nationis Germanica*); the **Second Reich** from Bismarck to the end of WW I – the neo-Protestant Prussian period; and of course, the **Third Reich** – the Hitler-Mussolini period). *The Day* will come when the Germans and the European Union will be the world's supreme power on earth through the powerful **Fourth Reich** – the final revival of the Roman Empire combined with eventual emperor worship.

It will most assuredly not be favourable toward the Anglo-Saxon-Keltic powers.²⁶



The Vatican – future religious capital of Europe

²⁶ Paul Winkler, *The Thousand-Year Conspiracy*, pp. 15-16: "Charles Andler, a French author, summed up certain ideas of List in his work, *The Origins of Pan-Germanism*, (published in 1915.) 'It is necessary to organize continental Europe against England. Napoleon I, a great strategist, also knew the methods of economic hegemony. His continental system, which met with opposition even from countries which might have profited from such an arrangement should be revived, but, this time, not as an instrument of Napoleonic domination. **The idea of united Europe in a closed trade bloc is no longer shocking if Germany assumes domination over such a bloc**—and not France. Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, willingly or by force, will enter this 'Customs Federation.' Austria is assumed to be won over at the outset. Even France, if she gets rid of her notions of military conquest, will not be excluded. The first steps the Confederation would take to assure unity of thought and action would be to establish a joint representative body, as well as to organize a common fleet. **But of course, both the headquarters of the Federation and its parliamentary seat would be in Germany**." [emphasis mine]

Further, Berlin is now once again the official capital of Germany,²⁷ but the liberal ruling class of the Anglo-Keltic powers are blinded to the dangers. One news story stated that Berlin will become the de-facto capital of the European Union.²⁸

However, may I suggest that the final political capital of Europe will probably be located in a city more acceptable to all or most European nations, Vienna. It is 'neutral' yet German. It stands between north and south, east and west; between Catholicism, Lutheranism and Orthodox Christianity. At the heart and centre of Europe, bonding a diverse continent and peoples under a single system and leader.



Vienna – political and military capital?

It could very well house the institutions now located in Brussels as well as the United Nations, World Bank and IMF (or successor organisations).

From Vienna, we may see again, the symbol of the double-headed eagle, proudly displayed as a restoration of the Holy Roman Empire. Eventually the future European leader will move his capital to Jerusalem (Dan 11:45).

²⁷ See and old article I read many years ago: "Topping out the Reichstag. Future Home of the German Bundestag," *Deutschland*, December 1997.

²⁸ Here are two old articles on the subject: Kopczynski, "Facing the Future without Kohl or the Mark", *The European*, 8-14 January 1998, p. 8. He also states that united Germany "will be a giant that keeps its claws pressed to its side so as to hide its true strength". See also Holloway, "Berlin Reborn", *The Australian*, 29 January 1998, p. 30.

How does the Final Beast/Anti-Christ (and False Prophet) Compare to Christ?

The Beast power in all its iterations has attempted, in some crude way, to be a savior and to mirror Christ. The final Beast will be much more deceptive (Matt 24). The chart below attempts to demonstrate the deceitfulness of the final restoration of the Roman system and its leader by his attempts as appearing as a saviour and Christ-like.

Final Beast/Anti-Christ (and False Prophet)	Christ
Possibly single or divorced	Single at His first coming but marries the Church
Probably of Royal stock (with mix of Judah and Assyrian blood?)	Royal stock of Judah
Rules over a 3 ½ year period of 'peace and safety' and prosperity (lulls Israel into a sense of security) followed by sudden destruction	Completes His 3 ½ year ministry to Israel, bringing them into a land of peace, safety and prosperity
Gets cremated in the lake of fire	Comes like a fire
Has a covenant of death with Israel	Has a new covenant of life with Israel
'Dies' and restored (probably in a coma)	Crucified and resurrected
Performs miracles	Performs miracles
Attacks the King of the South	Enters into the Middle East
Enters Jerusalem	Enters Jerusalem
Rules from Jerusalem ²⁹	Rules from Jerusalem
Destroys Israel	Revives Israel
Scatters Israel	Re-gathers Israel (Ezek 36)
Enters as 'God' into a pre-Tribulation temple or structure	Enters the Millennial temple at the end of this 3 ½ year ministry to Israel (Ezek 43)
Stops the sacrifices	Commences a new order of sacrifices (Ezek 40- 46; Cp Ezra 3:2-6)
Destroys Jerusalem	Re-builds Jerusalem
Goes to war against the kings of the east	Goes to war with the nations of the east (Ezek 38 & 39)

Because the final Beast will be the ultimate culmination of the Anti-Christ system, he will be doubly deceptive with deceit at an all-time high. His influence under Satan will mask his true intentions, much like Napoleon and Hitler.

His empire may be at the helm of a world superstructure, ushering in a period of world peace and prosperity before the leader descending into war and conquest just like his predecessors. This is the reverse of Christ's role and second coming. The Anti-Christ mimics Christ in some ways but also reverses the order of events – such is Satan's influence and deception.

²⁹ "The [future] Roman Empire must control Palestine, as the Anti-Christ will have his seat there." (L. Sale-Harrison in *The Resurrection of the Old Roman Empire*, p. 57)

Will the Beast leader be homosexual?

For decades, various evangelical prophecy authors have speculated that the end-time Beast personality will be homosexual based on their interpretation of Daniel 11:37.

I doubt that will be the case as this does not follow the historical model of Beast-type leaders over the centuries (including Antiochus Epiphanes, Holy Roman Emperors, Napoleon, Bismark, Hitler, Mussolini, etc). Indeed, the future Beast system in all likelihood will be a fascistic backlash against instability, political correctness and globalisation with all its variations from traditional values.

He may stay single and have women lovers (Hitler did not get married until two days or so prior to his death). As the Beast is the final Anti-Christ, he may well stay single as Christ Himself was.

Notice the following translations of Daniel 11:37:

"Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all." (KJV)

"And he shall make no account of the God of his fathers: and he shall follow the lust of women, and he shall not regard any gods: for he shall rise up against all things." (*Douay-Rheims Bible*)

"He'll recognize neither the gods of his ancestors nor those desired by women he won't recognize any god, because he'll exalt himself above everything." (International Standard Version)

"And unto the God of his fathers he doth not attend, nor to the desire of women, yea, to any god he doth not attend, for against all he magnifieth himself." (*Young's Literal Translation*)

Various quotes:

"Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god: for he shall magnify himself above all. The Septuagint rendering is, "And to the gods of his fathers he will not have respect, and to the desire of women he will not have respect, because in everything he shall be exalted, and by him strong nations shall be subdued." The last clause belongs really to the next verse, of the first clause of which it is a variant reading. Theodotion is nearly identical in sense with this, "And no god of his fathers will he regard (συνήσει) and a desire of women." "This clause stands thus incomplete, as if the translator would have finished it with $(\alpha \dot{\upsilon} \tau \tilde{\omega})$ "to him"-"he regards no god, because over all he is exalted." The Peshitta rendering is, "And to the god of his fathers he shall not have regard; nor to the desire of women, nor any god, will he have respect; but over all he shall exalt himself." It is to be noted that the Peshitta renders as does the English Version, and has the singular, "the God of his fathers," not as the Greek versions, "the gods of his." The Hebrew might be either. The Vulgate agrees here with the Syriac. Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers. Antiochus is looked upon, not as a man of Macedonian or Greek descent, but as a

Syrian, and certainly he had no reverence for the ancient gods of Syria. His opposition to the theocracy and to the worship of Jehovah was but a portion of a wide policy, the object of which was the abolition of all local cults. The desire of women. It might mean that he was not lustful; but there is no evidence that, like Charles XII; he was abstinent. On the ether hand, he never neglected war for luxury, as did some of the Hellenic kings. Moreover, it is almost imperative that it be an object of worship that is here referred to. Taking "the desire of women" as an object of worship, there is an interpretation which has come down to us from Ephrem Syrus and Jerome, that Beltis or Nanaea is here referred to; and the fact that in an attempt to plunder the temple of this goddess, in Elymais, Antiochus lost his life, supports this view. The worship is said to have been very lascivious. On the other hand, it was a worship that would not naturally be prominent to a Palestinian Jew. The suggestion of Ewald, that it was the worship of Adonis or Tammuz which Antiochus despised, is more likely to be meant here. For he shall magnify himself above all. Claiming the right of annulling worship, and taking the sacred utensils from the temple treasures, he allowed himself to be addressed by the Samaritans as a god. Antiochus was probably utterly without faith in the Divine; worship was merely policy." (The Pulpit Commentary)

"And the gods of his fathers he will not regard] The honours paid by him to foreign deities implied a depreciation of the gods of his own country. He was particularly devoted to the cult of Jupiter Capitolinus, or Zeus Olympios. Even before he became king, while halting at Athens on his way home from Rome, he contributed largely to the restoration of the Olympieion in that city; afterwards, he built in Daphne, the suburb of Antioch, a temple to Zeus Olympios, with a colossal statue of the god, modelled on the famous one of Pheidias at Olympia, and began, though he did not live to complete it, a yet more magnificent temple to him in Antioch itself (Livy xli. 20). His coins also exhibit constantly (on the obverse) the head of either Zeus Olympios or Apollo; and, as was just remarked, in those belonging to the latter part of his reign the king himself bears the title Νικηφόρος,—an epithet belonging properly to Zeus.

and neither the desire of women, nor any god, will he regard] The 'desire of women' must, from the context, be the designation of some divinity—most probably (Ewald, Bevan) Tammuz, a celebrated Syrian and Phœnician deity, known to the Greeks as Adonis, whose rites were popular among women.

Adonis in the legend was a beautiful youth, the dearly loved spouse of Aphrodit θ , snatched from her by a cruel fate, and bitterly bewailed by her. The festival of Adonis consisted largely in an imitation of the mourning of Aphrodit θ , and hence was specially observed by *women*; cf. Eze 8:14 (where the prophet sees in vision, in the precincts of the Temple, 'the *women* weeping for Tammuz'); Jerome on Ez. *I. c.* 'plangitur a mulieribus quasi mortuus, et postea reviviscens canitur atque laudatur^[388]'; Aristoph. *Lysistr.* 389 ff.; and Theocritus' Idyll (xv.) entitled Ἀδωνιάζουσαι, or 'Women keeping festival to Adonis.' According to Hippolytus, *Refut. Hζr.* Dan 11:9, the 'Assyrians' (? Syrians) called him the 'thrice-desired (τριπόθητος) Adonis': cf. Bion, in his Ἐπιτάφιος Ἀδώνιδος, II. 24, 58. (*Cambridge Bible for Schools and Colleges*)

He will, in fact, make himself his own god, paying no regard (by comparison) to his national or local god, the Olympian Zeus, nor to the Syrian deity, Tammuz-Adonis, "the desire of women."

"Tammuz came next behind, whose yearly wound in Lebanon allured the Syrian damsels to lament his fate in amorous ditties all a summer day. While smooth Adonis from his native rock ran purple to the sea-supposed with blood of Tammuz yearly wounded. The love tale infected Zion's daughters with like heat." (*The Expositor's Bible. The Book of Daniel*)

Neither ... regard ... the desire of women — (Compare Eze 24:16, Eze 24:18). The wife, as the *desire* of man's eyes, is the symbol of the tenderest relations (2Sa 1:26). Antiochus would set at naught even their entreaties that he should cease from his attack on Jehovah's worship [Polanus]. Maurer refers it to Antiochus' attack on the temple of *the Syrian Venus, worshipped by women* (1 Maccabees 6:1, etc.; 2 Maccabees 1:13). Newton refers it to Rome's "forbidding to marry." Elliott rightly makes the antitypical reference be to *Messiah*. Jewish women desired to be mothers with a view to Him, the promised seed of the woman (Gen 30:23; Luk 1:25, Luk 1:28).

nor regard any god — (2Th 2:4)." (Jamieson, Fausset and Brown, *Critical and Explanatory Commentary on the Whole Bible*)

From the above it can be seen that Daniel is not speaking of homosexuality at all. In fact, none of the Beast leaders have had any homosexual traits and were very much opposed to it. Expect the final leader to follow the old ways.

Why will the Beast attack the House of Israel?

As we saw previously, political, historical and religious reasons will probably be the cause for the falling out of the House of Israel with the Beast.³⁰

Global Economic Crisis

It is likely that there will be a major global economic crisis that will propel Europe to emerge as the new world super-power and the greatest trading bloc with the largest merchant fleet in history.

The U.S.A. would have somehow become a second-rate power; while Russia and her allies would be no match for Europe, but instead be aligned with Europe. It shall stand between East and West; North and South, - and the world will celebrate "peace in our time".

Some sort of world superstructure may emerge to enforce world peace and provide a means for free trade and perhaps sharing of technology. The United Nations (or successor organisation) will probably relocate to Europe – perhaps to Austria or Switzerland – demonstrating Europe's emerge as world centre and backed by the non-Israelite nations.

The Anglo-Keltic nations in particular will be lulled into a sense of security, thinking that we have "peace in our time" (I Thessalonians 5:13; Jeremiah 6:13-15, 22; Ezekiel 13:2,10-13; Isaiah 28:15-18; Daniel 8:25; 11:24). Britain in particular will make the biggest faux pas of its history. Hosea blasts Ephraim (the English peoples):

"When Ephraim saw his sickness ... and Judah [this includes the Scots] saw his wound, then went Ephraim [as leader of the Israelitish tribes] to the Assyrian, and sent to King Jareb [future German leader]: yet could he not heal you, nor cure you of your wound" (5:13). [comment: Ephraim here may be a synecdoche where Ephraim represents all of Israel]

It appears from this scripture that Britain will be in such economic, financial and political straits that she may seek help from German-led Europe. What will Europe do? How shall she respond to Britain's plea? Initially after signing an agreement with Britain (and North America?), sometime later it will turn on Israel (Isaiah 33:1,7-8). The following verse reveals this treacherous double-cross:

"For I will be unto Ephraim as a lion, and as a young lion to the House of Judah: I, even I, will tear and go away; I will take away, and none shall rescue him. I will go away and return to my place, till they acknowledge their offense, and seek My face: in their affliction they will seek me early" (5:14-15).³¹

There could be an end-time period of relative growing prosperity after a great depression and world

³⁰ Review the following scriptures: Revelation 13,17,18; Isaiah 13,14,21,47,48; Jeremiah 50,51; Ezekiel 27,28. Here prophecy names the future European fascistic empire as Babylon and Tyre.

³¹ Notice God likens these end-time Assyrians to ferocious lions. Other scriptures do likewise: Jeremiah 2:14-15,18; 4:7; 50:17; Ezekiel 38:13; Nahum 2:8-12; Joel 1:6; Zechariah 11:3 (see also I Peter 5:8). Other verses on this future "covenant" between the House of Israel and Europe are: Hosea 10:6; 12:1; 14:3; Isaiah 28:1-3,15,18; Daniel 11:22; Ezekiel 16:28. No wonder God slams Israel for having political and military "lovers" — she should be depending on her God, not man (Isaiah 30:1-9; 31:1-3). I suggest the reader look up the following verses on these "lovers" (Gentile allies) of Israel: Jeremiah 2:36-37; 4:30; 22:20-22; 30:14; Lamentations 1:2,19; Ezekiel 18:33-37; 23:5-9,22; Hosea 2:5-13; 8:9.

upheaval together with the development of a world superstructure (something globalist's desire, thought the sort of world superstructure may not reflect their ideology]. Followed by peace and safety for 3 ½ years. This in turn will create provide a time of deception to usher in reasoning to attack the House of Israel - 3 ½ years of Tribulation – the time of Jacob's Trouble.

NB: it is inevitable that man's desire and plans for world government will fail. After all, who will be in charge? What will be its religion and ideology (leftwing, rightwing, synchronism, neo-Marxism, Christian, Islam, New Age etc)? How will it be managed? No matter how close they may get to such a world government it is destined to fail as the world will naturally cleave along civilisational fissures:

- 1. Europe of 2 halves and their allies
- 2. Russia, China and their allies (I doubt if India and Japan will remain our allies for long)
- 3. Islamic world (or parts thereof)
- 4. the Anglo-Keltic nations (even in their diluted form) and NW Europe



Will Washington look like this in WW3?

The Greatest Double-Cross in World History

It is not in the mind of Germans or Europeans today to double-cross or attack the Anglo-Keltic nations. This will not occur until sometime after the formation of a National European Social Holy Roman Empire (Isaiah 10:7). God through His prophet Hosea roars:

"Ephraim also is like a silly dove without heart: they call to Egypt, they go to Assyria" (Hos 7:11).

"For they are gone up to Assyria, a wild ass alone by himself: Ephraim hath hired lovers. Yea, though they have hired among the nations, now will I gather them, and they shall sorrow a little for the burden of the king of princes" (Hos 8:9-10. Compare Is 10:3)

The last part of verse ten is very interesting. The Hebrew for "sorrow" is "woe" or "writhing" — in agony — due to enslavement. They are writhing "a little for the burden" of Tribulation. Again, the Hebrew for "a little" means in a little time, speedily or suddenly. Very suddenly Israel will be plunged into the Great Tribulation:

"For when they say, Peace and safety; then **sudden** destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; And they shall not escape" (I Thessalonians 5:3).

It seems that the peoples of the House of Israel will be lulled into a false sense of security, possibly believing that their New World Order and globalisation (ie One People, One World Religion and One World Capitalist Economic Free Trading System and Woke/liberal-left values) would bring world peace.

Instead, the future European Beast Power will also believe in a New World Order - but one which is radically different to that promoted by the Anglo-Keltic Powers. Theirs will be a fascist-type of system endearing so-called Christianity to the State, thus reviving the Holy Roman Empire. It will be completely different to and opposed to the Anglo-Keltic version of a New World Order in such fundamentals as nationhood, religion, finance, economics, social attitudes, personal liberties etc.

Conflict to determine which system and ideology dominates the world, will be inevitable.

	Invasion of Middle East (King of North vs King of South)	Kings of East vs Europe	Invasion of Britain	Invasion of North America	Invasion of Holy Land	Invasion of India etc
Assyria	Invaded holy land and Egypt	Fought wars with the Mushki	n/a	n/a	Yes	Penetrated the Punjab in 9 th century BC
Babylonia	Nebuchadnezzar c567BC	n/a	n/a	Took Judah captive	Yes	n/a
Persia	Cambyses II c525 BC	n/a	n/a	n/a	Yes	Cyrus 6 th century BC
Greece	Alexander c323 BC	n/a	n/a	n/a	Yes	Alexander c326 BC
Rome	Tunisia 202 BC (in response to Punic wars and Hannibal)	Attila the Hun vs eastern Roman Empire and Gaul (5 th century BC)	43 AD	n/a	Yes	Planned to
Roman Revivals:						
1. Imperial Restoration	Justinian's general, Belisarius, reconquered parts of North Africa	n/a	n/a	n/a	Yes	n/a
2-4. Holy Roman Empire	Muslim attacks countered by Charlemagne. Attacked Moors in northern Spain Crusades 1096-1291 AD (response to	Mongols (13-14 th centuries). Invasion of Russia by Teutonic Knights in 13 th century	1588 Spanish failed; planned by French in 1744; planned Spanish- French in	n/a	Yes	n/a

End-Time Prophetic Events Compared with Historical Events

	Invasion of Middle East (King of North vs King of South)	Kings of East vs Europe	Invasion of Britain	Invasion of North America	Invasion of Holy Land	Invasion of India etc
5. Napoleon	Muslim invasions) 1798-1801 (Egypt)	1812 (Russia)	1779 Planned to in 1805	Planned to	Yes	Intended to do so after conquering Egypt
6a. Bismark & Wilhelm II	Assisted Turks in holy land	WW I	Planned to	Planned to	No, but German and Austrian troops assisted the Turks in the Holy Land	Planned to
6b. Hitler & Mussolini	1940-42 (the Italians controlled Ethiopia, Somalia; Vichy France controlled West Africa, Syria, Lebanon, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Guiana and islands in the Caribbean, Madagascar, Mauritius and Reunion plus a no. of islands in the Pacific etc)	1941	Planned to	Planned to	Planned to	Planned to invade jointly with the Japanese
7. Final Beast	Yes	Yes (First Woe)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Is a German-led United Europe capable of attacking the House of Israel soon?

Back in 1986 a Church member surmised that the European Power was already in place secretly with the necessary weaponry to suddenly attack the Israelitish nations (ie North America, UK, Scandinavia). He seemed so absolutely sure this was the case and would occur any month.

I tried to calm him and let him know that based on pure historical precedences, economics, politics and the number of events that would lead to this that there were many years ahead of us still. He was not interested and just wanted it all to happen asap. Living outside reality when it comes to prophetic understanding can lead to mistakes in interpretation and not understanding the order or sequence of events that surely would occur first.

The Beast will be given power for one hour

This leads me to the following - some folk who read the following Scripture think that overnight the Beast power will emerge that will take down the Israelitish nations, but is this the case?:

"And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, who have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings one hour with the beast. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength to the beast." (Rev 17:12-13 Webster translation)

"And they worshiped the dragon which gave power to the beast: and they worshiped the beast, saying, Who *is* like the beast? who is able to make war with him?

And there was given to him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given to him to continue forty *and* two months." (Rev 13:4-5 Webster translation)

First of all, as we say in the *Introduction* that throughout the Book of Revelation we have the Beast, Babylon and Mystery Babylon mentioned – these are overlapping and integrated concepts, but they are not exactly the same.

Second, we should also understand the following:

1. the Beast making war occurs at the commencement of the Tribulation and is against the Israelitish nations (ie Jacob's trouble) which lasts 42 months or 1,260 days

2. 30 days prior to that, this Beast invades the Middle East (1,290 days of Dan 12:11)

3. prior to this Middle Eastern invasion there must be in place the political, constitutional and legal mechanisms to permit 10 kings or leaders to give over their power to one leader and who rule together with him for "one hour" (this reminds me a of how Holy Roman Emperors were selected)

4. there must also be the military in place and extensive, detailed planning for such a massive event. It doesn't just happen overnight

5. is this "one hour" just prior to the Tribulation or some time before that?

This "one hour" according to the *Pulpit Commentary* states:

"But receive power as kings one hour with the beast; **authority** (Revised Version). **One hour** denotes "a short time," in which way the Bible constantly

describes the period of the world's existence, and especially that period which intervenes between the time of the writer and the judgment day (cf. Romans 16:20; 1 Corinthians 7:29; Revelation 6:11; Revelation 12:12; Revelation 22:20, etc.)."

In fact, Strong's #5610 for "hour" is also translated as "a season" in Philemon 1:15 and "a short time" in 1Thess 2:17). Whether this be 3 ½ years prior to the Tribulation or some other length of time, we can be assured it is not 1 literal hour.



The House of Israel will be obliterated

What must first take place for Europe to have a potent military

For a fascistic German-led Europe to be able to be in a military position to attack and conquer the Israelitish nations it is very likely it will have the following in place first:

1. **the constitutional and legal framework to** permit the transfer of powers from 10 kings or leaders to a supreme Beast leader (ie a sort of kings of kings or Emperor). This does not exist at the present time. Note also that he must be very well known to them; be popular with the populace, political leaders and the corporate world. Presumably he would be of royal stock. Just as Christ is of Israelitish background of the Royal tribe of Judah, so the Beast may be partly descended of Judah with Assyrian admixture

2. **it must be able to be funded** – so this system would need to be unified and have the legal means to fund it as well as a successful economy to do so. This would require confidence in the system and cooperation of corporations and banks. This takes years to accomplish and does not happen overnight. There must be a Euro-bond of sorts to be able to issue Government paper or debt to support the war effort. The Lisbon Treaty does not permit this and the German Parliament is against the concept at this time – but it will happen. The gold standard may be revived and be the backing of the new currency

3. there **must be a unified political system in place** to be able to do undertake such massive military action

4. the **Beast must be one of their own (ie a king or ruler) and well known** and popular to the masses – one with "all the answers" – for these 10 kings to transfer powers to him (Rev 17:13)

5. it seems that **he must already be in office** for the powers of the 10 to be transferred to him. It could be that he would have been in power for 3 ½ years prior to the Tribulation and sometime during that period the 10 kings/rulers transfer their residual powers to him to enable him to engage in all-out war and adopt Emperor worship

6. the system must already be in place, and it follows, the military to be in place with the

necessary capabilities to attack North America and to conquer it. In other words it needs the technology, long range rockets, aircraft carriers, battleships, troop transport etc to enable millions of troops to set foot on North American soil

7. **time will be required to develop a united European capacity** and this would take at least 5 years if they commenced with full re-militarisation tomorrow.



My assumption is that the above would be in place 3 ½ years or more prior to the Tribulation.

So, one could envisage a Europe which is yet to politically reconstruct itself and for the Israelitish nations to withdraw or only have an economic relationship with Europe. They may form their own Anglo-Nordic global system (a sort of 'Anglo-Sphere') in rivalry to that of Europe and other blocs.

If Europe were to re-arm tomorrow, it could take 5 years at least to re-arm and to be in a position to project its capabilities into the Israelitish nations and to conquer them. It would first need military schools; a central command structure to overcome the various different structures and languages of Europe; the bureaucracy behind it; coordinated "practice runs" etc to make it successful and to fill the world with awe at its incredible might (Rev 13:4).

Europe's natural regions

Consider also that the current EU could evolve so that the Israelitish nations leave its political structure leaving 5 nations or groups of nations in both west and east Europe closely cooperating until 10 kings give their power to the Beast, perhaps because of his miraculous restoration from a near death experience.

Or the EU could collapse under the weight of discord and global economic depression – and another European system may arise out of the ashes of the EU.

Of great interest are comments made by Robert Anderson in *The Coming Prince* (published in 1894) concerning the composition of this 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...

"In the career of Napoleon Bonaparte, modern history affords a parallel still more striking and complete. When, now just a hundred years ago, he entered the French military school at Brienne, he was an unknown lad, without even the advantages which rank and wealth afford." (p. 87) [emphasis mine]

Massive crises warrant solutions. Dictators can resolve these with cunning and force.

Whatever happens, it would behove us to understand that Europe naturally falls into 4 very basic regions based on ethnicity and history, viz:

1. more-or-less the old areas of the Holy Roman Empire (the western leg of Daniel)

2. the eastern lands of Europe and later the Austro-Hungarian Empire (the eastern leg of Daniel)

3. Russia and her allies (probably initially aligned with Europe against the House of Israel before they have their falling out again)

4. British Isles, Scandinavia, The Netherlands, northern Belgium and a part of northern France (the Israelitish nations that are not comfortable with the European system). Attempts at conquest have been successful in the past for these nations but not the British Isles after the exit of the Romans. Refer to the **Appendix. Attempted Conquests of Britain.**

So, the necessary system must be in place before the 10 kings nominate the Beast leader and it must already have built up its military which would take some years to do. The Beast must also be well known and it seems that he would already be in the leading European position, only that he would not have **complete** power vested in him by the 10 kings until the beginning of the Tribulation. That is how it seems chronologically.

Consider also that an international treaty known as the "Treaty on the Final Settlement with Respect to Germany" between Russia and USA/UK/France was to limit Germany's military capabilities. (I don't know if this has a sunset clause or how it could be revoked with mutual consent of these nations or whether some other mechanism exists for this).

The Treaty states that Germany cannot produce or possess nuclear, biological or chemical weapons (I think that this or similar restrictions were also in place after WW2 in respect to West Germany); it's armed forces is permitted a maximum of 370,000 (currently around only 260,000); the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty to be applied to the entire united Germany.

There are various other restrictions placed on the armed forces under the German Basic Law or constitution.

My understanding that those matters dealing with the military can be changed by a simple 2/3 upper and lower house majority vote in the German parliament. But some aspects of their constitution can never be changed under current arrangements ("eternity clauses" such as a republic), but will have to be – no doubt during a time of great crisis and upheaval a way will be found.

However, I am sure I read many years ago that some restrictions on the German military were lifted when German re-united such as limitations on long range bombers, warship tonnage and perhaps rockets, but this needs to be checked.

So, no, the Beast power is not about to attack the Israelitish nations because it isn't in place yet and it will take some time for it to be in a position to do so. Nor is there a single huge military to be able to do so. No such military build-up exists in secret at the present.

Mercifully God will intervene and end this final resurrection of the Beast system and put away its real ruler, Satan the devil.

Addendum:

The old Worldwide Church of God taught that

"It is interesting to notice that the very number of the beast's name (666) is associated in the Bible with great prosperity (I Kings 10:14; II Chron. 9:13). Furthermore, scholars have said that there are only two common nouns in the Greek language which have a numerical value of 666. Interestingly, they are the words for "tradition" and "prosperity" (see A Critical and Experimental Commentary by Jamieson, Faucett and Brown)." (*Ambassador College Correspondence Course*, Lesson 11, p. 10):

Others have developed this further. In late September 2021 I received the following insights into this from a Bible student:

"Kings 10:14, 2 Chron 9:13, Ezra 2:13 and Rev 13:18.

666 is a number of a man according to Rev.13:18. The only man we can link that to is Solomon. What do we know about him?

1. The wisest man on Earth at that time

2. Extremely wealthy - the wealthiest man on Earth at that time.

3. Queen of Sheba, after meeting him, praised him as the wisest and the richest, she also gave him a portion of her wealth.

4. Was very attractive (as per your comments)

5. Ended up worshipping demons, in defiance of God's direct warning and instruction.

6. Was a second child, with a firstborn sibling dead.

- 7. Built a Temple.
- 8. Was in alliance with a king if Tyre.

Thus, the coming leader of the Beast power will possess the same attributes:

1. Considered the wisest man on Earth.

- 2. Wealthiest man on Earth.
- 3. Royals will pay homage to him and will "tithe" to him.
- 4. Will be very attractive.

5. Will worship Satan, who will be disguised as an angel of light and referred to as "Christ" (as per the first seal).

6. Will be a second child, potentially with a firstborn sibling dead.

7. Will build a temple.

8. Will be in alliance with a king of Tyre, I.e Satan. (Ezk 28)

Solomon is not the beast, he is a forerunner in the same manner that Elijah was a forerunner for John the Baptist."

A number of quotes from the old Worldwide Church of God concerning a future 10 nation union in Europe can be found in the **Appendix. Select Quotes on the Coming U.S. of Europe.**

Why will the Beast turn upon the Great False Church?

There has been for an extended period of time a love-hate relationship between the State and Church in Europe.

Initially, the Roman Emperors demanded worship and persecuted both the true and false the churches to eliminate rivals:

"As the emperor cult developed, it became ever more clearly a form of Antichrist, as Christians were commanded to substitute the words *kyrios kaiser* ('Caesar is Lord') for their basic Christian confession *kyrios* Jesus ('Jesus is Lord'), Augustus had been the first emperor to claim divinity and solicit worship ... But it was Domitan, who became emperor in AD 81 and demanded to be worshipped as Dominus et Deus, who persecuted those who denied him the divine homage he coveted." (John Stott, *The Message of Thessalonians*, *The Bible Speaks Today*, p. 161).





But it didn't end there – the continuing rivalry has been unabated ever since:

"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) [emphasis mine]³²



³² "The supremacy of ecclesiastical power must finally give way to the stronger sceptre of the secular monarch. Becket must yield to Henry. The struggle may be prolonged and disastrous" (Benjamin Newton, *Progress Towards the Formation of the Ten Kingdoms*, p. 415) A future conflict after a brief 'fling' with the State will result in disaster for the Great Church.

These ongoing toing and froing over centuries culminated in Napoleon imprisoning two Popes. Hitler, too, had plans for the imprisonment of the Pope. No doubt the final Beast will have a falling out with the final Pope:

> "And the ten horns that you saw, they and the beast will hate the prostitute. They will make her desolate and naked, and devour her flesh and burn her up with fire" (Rev 17:16)

What are the Rival Views for a US of Europe? Which will succeed?

It should be recognized that there are a number of rival ideas for a US of Europe, including:

- Lenin's model for a Communist US of Europe and the merging of the nations as a step toward a single world nation
- a loose confederation like the Holy Roman Empire where the Emperor was a sort of protector of the nations
- a sort of Roman Empire that may include North Africa
- a model that is only economic (eg what Churchill preferred)
- the Nazi model this is rather different to today's EU model that includes nations that Nazis would not accept in its proposed union. Today's EU is rather different to the Nazi racial, immigration, social and economic theories. Their US of Europe was for northern Europe, not the entire continent, to be united. Refer to the book *When Nazi Dreams Come True* (details in the *References*).

But today's EU is becoming more and more like a US of Europe that the Fabians, Globalists, Socialists, One-worlders etc advocate. It is utterly different to the Nazi model or that advocated by the Right or the Church's hope for Europe.

Read below how the influential Pan-European Union wants to merge Africa with Europe. How like the Communists (at least the Leninist/Trotskyite wing), Fabians and even Global Capitalists. This DOES NOT mean that all members of the organization have such a dream, but clearly many do and have been pushing for this.

One idea is that of Richard von Coudenhove-Kalergi who founded the Pan-European Union.

In his book *Praktischer Idealismus* (*Practical Idealism*), he wrote:

"The man of the future will be of mixed race. Today's races and classes will gradually disappear owing to the vanishing of space, time, and prejudice. The Eurasian-Negroid race of the future, similar in its appearance to the Ancient Egyptians, will replace the diversity of peoples with a diversity of individuals."

The Coudenhove-Kalergi European Prize is awarded every two years to Europeans who have excelled in promoting this criminal plan. Among those awarded with such a prize were German Chancellor Angela Merkel and EU President Herman Van Rompuy.

No doubt, other forces will eventually take over the EU and bend it toward the Right instead. There is much more to write about this.

The following article provides further insights³³:

³³ Refer also to <u>http://www.westernspring.co.uk/the-coudenhove-kalergi-plan-the-genocide-of-the-peoples-of-</u> europe/

How a secretive elite created the EU to build a world government Voters in Britain's referendum need to understand that the European Union was about building a federal superstate from day one



Harold Macmillan, here with Edward Heath, couldn't get a free-trade deal Photo: PA

By Prof Alan Sked 27 Nov 2015

As the debate over the forthcoming EU referendum gears up, it would be wise perhaps to remember how Britain was led into membership in the first place. It seems to me that most people have little idea why one of the victors of the Second World War should have become almost desperate to join this "club". That's a shame, because answering that question is key to understanding why the EU has gone so wrong.

Most students seem to think that Britain was in dire economic straits, and that the European Economic Community – as it was then called – provided an economic engine which could revitalise our economy. Others seem to believe that after the Second World War Britain needed to recast her geopolitical position away from empire, and towards a more realistic one at the heart of Europe. Neither of these arguments, however, makes any sense at all.

The EEC in the 1960s and 1970s was in no position to regenerate anyone's economy. It spent most of its meagre resources on agriculture and fisheries and had no means or policies to generate economic growth.

"When we entered the EEC our annual growth rate was a record 7.4 per cent. The present Chancellor would die for such figures"

When growth did happen, it did not come from the EU. From Ludwig Erhard's supply-side reforms in West Germany in 1948 to Thatcher's privatisation of nationalised industry in the Eighties, European growth came from reforms introduced by individual countries which were were copied elsewhere. EU policy has always been either irrelevant or positively detrimental (as was the case with the euro).

Nor did British growth ever really lag behind Europe's. Sometimes it surged ahead. In the 1950s Western Europe had a growth rate of 3.5 per cent; in the 1960s, it was 4.5 per cent. But in 1959, when Harold Macmillan took office, the real annual growth rate of British GDP, according to the Office of National Statistics, was almost 6 per cent. It was again almost 6 per cent when de Gaulle vetoed our first application to join the EEC in 1963.

In 1973, when we entered the EEC, our annual national growth rate in real terms was a record 7.4 per cent. The present Chancellor would die for such figures. So the economic basket-case argument doesn't work.

What about geopolitics? What argument in the cold light of hindsight could have been so compelling as to make us kick our Second-World-War Commonwealth allies in the teeth to join a combination of Belgium, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, France, Germany and Italy?

Four of these countries held no international weight whatsoever. Germany was occupied and divided. France, meanwhile, had lost one colonial war in Vietnam and another in Algeria. De Gaulle had come to power to save the country from civil war. Most realists must surely have regarded these states as a bunch of losers. De Gaulle, himself a supreme realist, pointed out that Britain had democratic political institutions, world trade links, cheap food from the Commonwealth, and was a global power. Why would it want to enter the EEC?

"Harold Macmillan and his closest advisers were part of an intellectual tradition that saw the salvation of the world in some form of world government"

The answer is that Harold Macmillan and his closest advisers were part of an intellectual tradition that saw the salvation of the world in some form of world government based on regional federations. He was also a close acquaintance of Jean Monnet, who believed the same. It was therefore Macmillan who became the representative of the European federalist movement in the British cabinet.

In a speech in the House of Commons he even advocated a European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC) before the real thing had been announced. He later arranged for a Treaty of Association to be signed between the UK and the ECSC, and it was he who ensured that a British representative was sent to the Brussels negotiations following the Messina Conference, which gave birth to the EEC.

In the late 1950s he pushed negotiations concerning a European Free Trade Association towards membership of the EEC. Then, when General de Gaulle began to turn the EEC into a less federalist body, he took the risk of submitting a full British membership application in the hope of frustrating Gaullist ambitions.

His aim, in alliance with US and European proponents of a federalist world order, was to frustrate the emerging Franco-German alliance which was seen as one of French and German nationalism.



The French statesman Jean Monnet, (1888 - 1979), who in 1956 was appointed president of the Action Committee for the United States of Europe

Monnet met secretly with Heath and Macmillan on innumerable occasions to facilitate British entry. Indeed, he was informed before the British Parliament of the terms in which the British approach to Europe would be framed.

Despite advice from the Lord Chancellor, Lord Kilmuir, that membership would mean the end of British parliamentary sovereignty, Macmillan deliberately misled the House of Commons — and practically everyone else, from Commonwealth statesmen to cabinet colleagues and the public — that merely minor commercial negotiations were involved. He even tried to deceive de Gaulle that he was an anti-federalist and a close friend who would arrange for France, like Britain, to receive Polaris missiles from the Americans. De Gaulle saw completely through him and vetoed the British bid to enter.

Macmillan left Edward Heath to take matters forward, and Heath, along with Douglas Hurd, arranged — according to the Monnet papers — for the Tory Party to become a (secret) corporate member of Monnet's Action Committee for a United States of Europe.

According to Monnet's chief aide and biographer, Francois Duchene, both the Labour and Liberal Parties later did the same. Meanwhile the Earl of Gosford, one of Macmillan's foreign policy ministers in the House of Lords, actually informed the House that the aim of the government's foreign policy was world government.

"The Anglo-American establishment was now committed to the creation of a federal United States of Europe"

Monnet's Action Committee was also given financial backing by the CIA and the US State Department. The Anglo-American establishment was now committed to the creation of a federal United States of Europe.

Today, this is still the case. Powerful international lobbies are already at work attempting to prove that any return to democratic self-government on the part of Britain will spell doom. American officials have already been primed to state that such a Britain would be excluded from any free trade deal with the USA and that the world needs the TTIP trade treaty which is predicated on the survival of the EU.

Fortunately, Republican candidates in the USA are becoming Eurosceptics and magazines there like The National Interest are publishing the case for Brexit. The international coalition behind Macmillan and Heath will find things a lot more difficult this time round — especially given the obvious difficulties of the Eurozone, the failure of EU migration policy and the lack of any coherent EU security policy.

Most importantly, having been fooled once, the British public will be much more difficult to fool again.

Alan Sked is the original founder of Ukip and professor of International History at the London School of Economics. He is presently collecting material for a book he hopes to publish on Britain's experience of the EU

http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstopics/eureferendum/12018877/The-truth-how-asecretive-elite-created-the-EU-to-build-a-world-government.html

Is Islam the Beast?

Over the years, many religious writers and people have postulated about whom the Beast power and person is. Some drew parallels between the Beast and Babylon on one side and Russia and Communism on the other; or China; or a New World Order; or America as the Beast and New York as Babylon.

They also try and nominate whom the Beast leader will be even saying or suggesting it is Prince Philip of all people! The reasons are dubious, weird and conspiratorial. The lack of reality, knowledge and willingness to lend one's ear to every false doctrine and view.

Nowadays – especially since the infamous 9/11 event (ie 11 September 2001 attacks) Christians from all sorts of backgrounds (pentecostal, evangelical, Baptist etc) have written attempting to identify Islam with the Beast. Similar arguments have been used to identify Communism with the Beast.

One of the supposed proofs for Islam being the Beast is that some forms of it (eg ISIL or the Islamic State) practices be-headings which is mentioned in Rev 20:4.

However, when one remembers from any casual reading of history that beheadings long predated Islam, was practiced by the Romans as well as during the French Revolution and later by the Nazis, it follows that the coming fascistic US of Europe will restore beheadings.

For some history about beheadings refer to:

http://www.capitalpunishmentuk.org/behead.html and http://www.latimes.com/opinion/op-ed/la-oe-zimmerman-beheading-history-20140929-story.html

Islam is not the Beast at all and never has been. It has always been a Roman system or revival down the centuries via the Holy Roman Empire, Napoleon, Bismark/King Wilhelm II and Hitler/Mussolini. Another revival of the Roman system is yet to arise.

Islam, Communism etc are AN anti-Christ (or sort of anti-Christ), not THE anti-Christ. Evangelicals and others keep on chopping and changing whom the end-time Beast will be: Russia, then USA/NWO, then China, the Islamics and now the USA/NWO with a sort of New Age religion again. The truth is, it will be the same old German-led system in Europe that will revive in years to come and take the world by storm.

Concluding Comments

Arno Gaebelein (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]

"... the [Euphrates] river ... the revived Roman empire will be the objective of these invading hordes [from the east]" (p. 64)

"... the Roman Catholic "church" will see a great revival. For a time she has been stripped of the power she once had, but it will be restored to her. Along with the revival of the Roman empire there will be a revival of Papal Rome ... Many voices are heard in Protestantism suggesting a union with Rome, thus producing a great "world-church," a strange and significant term." (p. 99) [emphasis mine] [refer also to the **Appendix** containing a quote from another author of that time-period, Clarence Larkin, who wrote similarly]

Here we are more than 100 years after the above was written and we are still "in the most solemn and ominous times the world has ever known" and is only set to worsen.

Every indication is that the coming Beast power will develop into what we would consider a fascist military bloc. It won't call itself *fascist*, but it will continue that basic system. A push-back against the forces of the Left and certainly ferociously anti-Anglo-Keltic, viewing them as decadent and the antithesis of their revival of a 'Christian' and conservative Holy Roman Empire.

Those that hold to other views of prophecy may be deceived, viewing this system as the saviour of Western Civilisation and the world as a whole.

Like Napoleon, Bismark, Wilhelm II, Mussolini and Hitler, he will be a social and economic reformer to some degree and not for the wealthy alone. All of these endeavoured in some way to improve the lot of the populace including the under-privileged. Napoleon and Mussolini started on the Left and 'migrated' to the Right. Hitler's early economic and financial theories contained some socialist aspects and Mussolini even more so. Napoleon, Mussolini and Hitler grew antagonistic with the Roman Catholic Church (Bismark and Wilhelm II were Protestant and were not aligned with it).

Of interest is that Napoleon, Wilhelm II, Mussolini and Hitler made positive comments of Islam and had allies among them (as well as King Friedrich der Grosse of Prussia in the late 18th

century). Expect the future Beast leader to be initially friendly toward Islam before a falling out with some of them who will form a King of the South.³⁴

But don't be fooled, it will morph from a Holy Roman Empire into something even worse: a Roman Empire with the will and desire to go forth and conquer (much like Napoleon, Mussolini and Hitler who started off as sort of Holy Roman Emperor but eventually became a type of Roman Emperor).

Because a beast is a wild, predatory animal that kills, maims, scattered and devours other creatures. It is a warlike Gentile power eager to destroy Israel.

In a nutshell, that is what the Beast is and will be in the years ahead.

Are we prepared for it?

³⁴ Even Charlemagne "Even though Holy Roman Emperor Charlemagne, also known as Charles the Great or Karl der Grosse (c. 747-814), and Abbasid Caliph Harun al-Rashid (c. 763-809) were officially enemies in a cosmic conflict between good and evil, believers and infidels, they acted like long-distance lovers with bottomless pockets, lavishing on each other luxurious and beguiling gifts. These two monarchs may not have shared a common religion, but they shared the kind of geopolitical and economic interests that stretch across the porous and elastic civilizational lines, magically transforming the infidel into the very embodiment of fidelity. Through the exchange of several envoys, the Frankish king and the Abbasid caliph sought to deepen the alliance first forged by Charlemagne's father, Pepin the Short (c. 714-768), and al-Rashid's grandfather, Abu Jaafar al-Mansur (c. 714-775)." (Khaled Diab, "When a Christian Emperor Courted a Muslim Caliph", *New Lines*, 15 July 2022, https://newlinesmag.com/essays/when-a-christian-emperor-courted-a-muslim-caliph/)

Appendix. Quotes from *The Book of Revelation* by Clarence Larkin

Clarence Larkin, a dispensationalist, wrote the following in his comprehensive study *The Book of Revelation* (1919):

"Who is the "Rider" upon this White Horse? He is not Christ, as some claim, for Christ, as the LAMB, is holding the "Seven Sealed Book" and breaking its "Seals." Christ does not appear as a White Horse Rider until chapter 19:11-16, when He comes with the armies of Heaven to engage in the Battle of Armageddon. Then He is called "Faithful and True," and on His head there is a many "Diademed Crown," and He is clothed in a vesture dipped in blood, and His name is called the "WORD OF GOD," and there is no weapon of warfare in His hand, but a sharp sword comes out of His mouth, and the effect upon His enemies will he swift and terrible.

This "Rider" has a "bow," no arrow is mentioned, and he is not crowned at first, but a crown will be given to him later, the "Stephanos" or "Victor's Crown," as a reward for his victories which are prolonged and bloodless. This is the picture of a brilliant, strategical, and irresistible conqueror, whose victories will dazzle the world, and elevate him to a leadership that will place him at **the Head of the Ten Federated Kingdoms of the revived Roman Empire**. As a subaltern, like Napoleon I, he will rise from the ranks until a crown will be given him. His triumphs will be due to his skilful diplomacy. Like Antiochus Epiphanes, his prototype, he "will come in peaceably, and obtain the Kingdom by flatteries." Dan. 11:21. As the "Tool of Satan" he will be endowed with wonder working powers, and when he comes, he will find the world ready to receive him, for God will send upon its inhabitants a "strong delusion" that they will believe a LIE, or "THE LIE," for that is what he will be. 2. Thess. 2:9-11.

In other words this White Horse Rider is the ANTICHRIST. He is the "PRINCE WHO IS TO COME" of Daniel's Vision of the "Seventy Weeks," and who will confirm the Covenant for "ONE WEEK," the last or "Seventieth Week," with Daniel's people the Jews. Dan. 9:27." (pp. 53-54)

"This "Image" reminds us of the "GOLDEN IMAGE" that Nebuchadnezzar commanded to be made and set up in the "Plain of Dura," in the Province of Babylon (Dan. 3:1-30), before which, at the sounding of musical instruments, the people were commanded to bow down and worship under penalty, for those who disobeyed, of being cast into a "BURNING FIERY FURNACE." Doubtless there will be many in the "Day of Antichrist" who will refuse to bow down and worship the "Image of the Beast," and who will not escape as did the "Three Hebrew Children," though God may inter-pose in a miraculous way to deliver some. And as if this was not enough the False Prophet shall cause--"ALL, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a 'MARK' in their RIGHT HAND, or in their FOREHEAD; and that no man might BUY or SELL, save he that has the 'MARK' or the 'NAME OF THE BEAST,' or the 'NUMBER OF HIS NAME'." This "MARK" will be known as the "BRAND OF HELL."

'This is what the world is fast coming to. The time is not far distant when the various "Trusts" and "Combinations of Capital" will be merged into a "FEDERATION OF TRUSTS," at the head of which shall be a "NAPOLEON OF CAPITAL." Ultimately this "Federation of Trusts" will extend to the whole world, at the head of which shall be THE ANTICHRIST, and the producer and consumer will be powerless in the tentacles of this OCTOPUS, and no man shall be able to BUY or SELL who has not the "MARK OF THE BEAST" either upon his "right hand" or on his "forehead." This "Mark" will be BRANDED or burnt on. It will probably be the "NUMBER OF THE BEAST" or "666." The number "666" is the "NUMBER OF MAN," and stops short of the perfect number SEVEN. Man was created on the SIXTH day. Goliath, the opposer of God's people, a type of Satan,

was 6 cubits in height, he had 6 pieces of armor, and his spearhead weighed 600 shekels. 1. Sam. 17:4-7. Nebuchadnezzar's Image, a type of the "Image of the Beast," was 60 cubits in height, 6 cubits wide, and 6 instruments of music summoned the worshippers. Dan. 3:1-7. In that day men will doubtless prefer to have the "MARK" on the back of their right hand so it can be readily seen in the act of signing checks, drafts, and receipts. There will doubtless be public officials in all public places of business to see that no one buys or sells who has not the "MARK." This will apply to women as well as men. No one can shop, or even buy from the huckster at the door, without the "MARK," under penalty of DEATH." (pp. 129-30) [emphasis mine]

Appendix. Select Quotes on the coming U.S of Europe

Since the 1930s the Worldwide Church of God taught that there would arise a militaristic and fascist United Europe led by Germany. Below are just a few quotes from their literature:

"These ten nations or groups of nations, comprising the modern revived Beast...

One of these was the formation of "Benelux" — a joint customs union formed by the three nations of Belgium, the Netherlands, and Luxembourg — which actually began operation on January 1, 1948. The purpose of Benelux was to gradually reduce duties and tariffs on commerce between the three member nations to promote increased trade among themselves.

In 1951, the European Coal and Steel Community was set up which comprised six nations — the "Benelux" nations with the addition of West Germany, France, and Italy. In four years, combined steel production soared 36%, and next to the United States, they became the largest steel producer in the world!

Then, finally in 1957, these six nations signed "The Treaty of Rome," setting up the European "Common Market." OFFICIALLY IT IS CALLED EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY, or EEC. It went INTO FORCE on January 1, 1958.

The "Common Market" BINDS THESE NATIONS TOGETHER ECONOMICALLY. The ultimate aim of the plan is to create one solid economy between the present member nations.

But it has been made plain that the plan is NOT LIMITED only to the PRESENT SIX NATIONS. Now other nations want to join the European Economic Community. (Remember that there must be TEN NATIONS or groups of nations to comprise the final resurrection of the modern "Holy Roman Empire!" (*Ambassador College, Bible Correspondence Course*. Lesson 32, p. 7. 1965 edition)

"The PLAIN TRUTH has consistently been telling you for over 21 years that Germany would rise again. That Germany at the head of 10 nations or combinations of nation in Europe will revive the Roman Empire." (Frank Schnee, "Where is Germany Headed Now?" *Plain Truth*, Jan 1967, p. 22)

"And in the days of these kings..." it is here speaking of the ten toes, part of iron and part of brittle clay. This, by connecting the prophecy with Daniel 7 and Revelation 13 and 17, is referring to the new UNITED STATES OF EUROPE which is now forming, out of the European Common Market, before your very eyes! Revelation 17:12 makes plain the detail that it shall be a union of TEN KINGS OR KINGDOMS which (Rev. 17:8) shall resurrect the old ROMAN EMPIRE.

So, mark carefully the time element! "In the days of these kings" — in the days of these ten nations or groups of nations that shall, IN OUR TIME, resurrect briefly the Roman Empire — notice what shall happen:

"... shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed... but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever!" (Herbert W Armstrong, "Just What Do You Mean... The KINGDOM OF GOD?" *Tomorrow's World*, June 1969, pp. 8, 25)

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"... shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed ... but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever"! (Herbert W Armstrong, Incredible Human Potential, p. 194)

"In the days of these kings"—in the days of these ten nations or groups of nations that shall, in our time, resurrect briefly the Roman Empire—notice what shall happen: "... shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed ... but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever."! (Herbert W Armstrong, "7 Proofs of God's True Church," Part Four. *Plain Truth*, May 1979, p. 41)

"Prophecy says there will be TEN NATIONS (or groups of nations such as Benelux) but it does not say WHICH nations. The WHICH nations is speculation, but current rapid-fire news happenings do give us significant clues." (Herbert W Armstrong, *Co-Worker Letter*, 18 Feb, 1980)

"That final resurrection of the Roman empire is going to be made up of ten nations or groups of nations united together in one final attempt of man to maintain human government. That union of nations will be very short lived, as we read in verse 12, and in Daniel 2:44." (Ronald Kelly, "You Can Understand Prophecy," *Plain Truth*, May 1983, p. 9)

"The Bible shows that 10 nations or groups of nations in Europe will be goaded by circumstances to unite. They will be unlikely allies, "iron mixed with miry clay" is how the Bible describes them (Dan. 2). But a common cause — or a common fear — forces them into a fragile union." (John Halford, "Old Barracks and the New Europe," *Plain Truth*, May 1985, p. 30)

"These prophecies depict detailed ADVANCE NEWS of one more, last revival of this empire, yet to occur, by a union of 10 nations, or groups of nations, in Europe." (Herbert W Armstrong, "What Is Now Prophesied!" *Plain Truth*, June 1985, p. 10)

"This power is referred to in the Bible as the "beast" — a powerful union of 10 European nations or groups of nations to arise in the closing days of this world's civilizations (Rev. 17:12-14). This European power — led by a military superdictator also referred to in prophecy as the "beast" will be the final, end — time revival of the medieval Holy Roman Empire." (Keith Stump, "Just What Do You Mean – ARMAGEDDON?" *Plain Truth*, June 1985, p. 35)

"No one knows yet just which nations will make up the final 10. The possibility always exists some nations could be considered one, such as Benelux (Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg), or two or more Balkan ' or Iberian states could be grouped together. After all, the modern borders of European nations greatly differ from the many different borders in historic times." (Ronald Kelly, "A United Europe Nearer Than You Think!" *Plain Truth*, Nov-Dec 1985, p. 18)

"Bible prophecy reveals that an end-time revival of the ancient Roman Empire will once more arise in Europe. This confederated Europe will rapidly become an immense economic, political and military power — a Third Force in world affairs, a superpower in its own right. This powerful union, prophecy tells us, will be composed of "ten horns" — meaning 10 nations or groups of nations (Rev. 17:3).

Notice further that the ancient prophecies of Daniel picture this system as a human image standing on two legs. The original Roman Empire was broken into two "legs" — the Eastern Empire at Byzantium (Constantinople) and the Empire of the West centered at Rome. Thus it is probable that the coming reconstituted Roman Empire will also be composed of two distinct yet cooperative parts: one comprising nations of Western Europe, the other incorporating nations released from Soviet dominance in Eastern Europe.

Moreover, the 10 toes of the image of Daniel's prophecy (Dan. 2:41-43) correspond to the 10 end-time national units described as "horns" in Revelation 17. These 10 entities constitute a political system that will dominate the Western world and will exist at the return of Jesus Christ, when he will establish the kingdom of God on this earth and bring us peace at last (Dan. 2:44, 45).

Given the fact of five toes on each foot, it is possible that five entities will come from Western Europe. and five from the East. That the toes are described as being composed of "iron mixed with miry clay" indicates an imperfect adhesion." (Keith Stump, "Soviet Economic Crisis: Prelude to United Europe?" *Plain Truth*, Jan 1986, p. 24)

Appendix. Attempted Conquests of Britain

- Roman in 55BC under Julius Caesar did not fully conquer but used it for trade
- A 100 years later Caligula tried and failed, but his successor, Claudius was successful
- French invasion 1215-17
- Franco-Castilian raids of 1374-80 including overrunning of Isle of Wight in 1377 by French during the 100 years war (1337-1453). Channel Islands invaded by French (1338-45), 1373.
- Jersey captured 1461-68
- Charles VI of France planned to invade England in 1386 but postponed until the following year and was not followed through.
- 1406 sent forces to Wales to assist them and entered into England for a short time
- Perkin Warbeck attempted 3x to invade England 1495, 1496, 1497
- Spanish Armada defeated 1588
- Spanish attacks upon Cornwall in 1595
- Dutch attack in 1667, 1688-90
- The Ancien Regime's planned invasions 1744, 1759, 1779.
- "The Battle of Fishguard was a military invasion of Great Britain by Revolutionary France during the War of the First Coalition. The brief campaign, on 22–24 February 1797, is the most recent landing on British soil by a hostile foreign force, and thus is often referred to as the "last invasion of mainland Britain"." (<u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Battle_of_Fishguard</u>)
- "Napoleon's planned invasion of the United Kingdom at the start of the War of the Third Coalition, although never carried out, was a major influence on British naval strategy and the fortification of the coast of southeast England. French attempts to invade Ireland in order to destabilise the United Kingdom or as a stepping-stone to Great Britain had already occurred in 1796. The first French Army of England had gathered on the Channel coast in 1798, but an invasion of England was sidelined by Napoleon's concentration on campaigns in Egypt and against Austria, and shelved in 1802 by the Peace of Amiens. Building on planning for mooted invasions under France's Ancien Régime in 1744, 1759 and 1779, preparations began again in earnest soon after the outbreak of war in 1803, and were finally called off in 1805, before the Battle of Trafalgar."

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Napoleon%27s_planned_invasion_of_the_United_King_dom_)

- Emperor Wilhelm II plans
 <u>https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Imperial_German_plans_for_the_invasion_of_the_Unit_ed_Kingdom</u>
- Hitler's plans <u>https://www.historyextra.com/period/second-world-war/operation-sealion-hitler-nazi-germany-invasion-britain-why-cancelled-failed-plans-how-what-if/</u>

Appendix. Catholic and Other Prophecies

Having read works such as *Catholic Prophecy: The Coming Chastisement* by Yves Dupont where he delves into the prophecies pertaining to the Catholic Church, the end-time Monarch, Pope and the time prior to the Antichrist, I fully concur with Rod King's view below. Dupont compiles a range of non-Biblical prophecies from the 4th until the 20th century. These sorts of works seem interesting and accurate, but a casual comparison with the Biblical prophecies demonstrates that there is a mixture of truth and error in them.

Another is *The End of Germany* which is supposedly "a Translation from the Latin of a Remarkable Prophecy, written in 1600 by Brother Johannes". In it he makes some rather strange predictions concerning Austria, England, France and Russia. Of Germany he makes some interesting predictions:

"The true Anti-Christ will be one of the monarchs of his time, a son of Luther [ie a German]: he will invoke God and proclaim himself his messenger ... "His deceitful words will be apparently Christian, but his deeds will be those of Nero and the Roman persecutors. An Eagle will be on his arms, and on those of his ally, the other bad Monarch. That one will be Christian, but will die under the Curse of Pope Benedict, who will be elected at the beginning of the reign of Anti-Christ ... "It has been said that 20 centuries after the incarnation of the Word the beast would appear in the flesh, and threaten the world with as many evils as the Divine incarnation brought graces "Towards the year 2000 Anti-Christ will appear ... "When the beast finds himself losing he will become furious ... "Anti-Christ will lose his Crown and die in exile and madness ... "The White Eagle, by command of Michael, will chase the Crescent from Europe, which will be all Christian, and establish itself at Constantinople ... "Then will begin a time of universal peace ... "There will be no more Lutherans or Heretics. The Lamb will reign, and the happiness of humanity begin." (pp. 3-5, 7-8)

The above is another example of truth and error being mixed together.

Catholic Prophecy by Rod King

Prophecy can arouse a variety of responses in us. For some it evokes fear of the future, whereas for others it is a fascination and can even become an obsession.

When God spoke through His prophets of old it was for a specific purpose—to proclaim in advance what He would do for those whom He would call to salvation.

"Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you, searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ [which] was in them was indicating....but to us they were ministering the things which now have been reported to you...things which angels desire to look into" (1 Peter 1:10-12).

The purpose of prophetic understanding must be the same for the Church today—to proclaim what God is doing for those whom he has called to salvation. To pursue prophecy for the purpose of superior knowledge simply puffs a person up. "And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge...but have not love, I am nothing" (1 Corinthians 13:2). "Knowledge puffs up, but love edifies. And if anyone thinks that he knows anything, he knows nothing yet as he ought to know" (1 Corinthians 8:1-2).

In other words, we can only know what God wants us to know. Anything outside of His will is self-thought and not inspired. To pronounce prophetic understanding is an awesome responsibility and must not be taken lightly.

Who Understands Prophecy Today?

God is jealous about those to whom He will reveal prophetic understanding. The prophet Amos tells us: "Surely the Lord God does nothing, unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets" (Amos 3:7). Only those who serve Him faithfully in all areas of their life can receive this special understanding. This also provides a benchmark for those of us wanting to read or hear about prophecy. We can ask the question, "Is this person obeying God's commandments'?" If the answer is negative we can know that they are not being led by God.

The preamble to the book of Revelation preserves this principle. Notice: "The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants—things which must shortly take place" (Revelation 1:1). These servants are identified as God's saints in Revelation 14:12, "who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus."

Peter warns us once again about private interpretation of prophecy: "And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of than, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit" (2 Peter 1:19-21).

Is All End-Time Prophecy True?

Most are familiar with the prognostications of soothsayers and astrologers. God clearly warns us to have nothing to do with them. What about Nostradamus or Mother Shipton? Some of their forecasts bear uncanny similarity to events that have occurred, while others are either so vague or ambiguous that one cannot be certain of their veracity. Others are clearly false and untrue.

There is a source of end-time "prophecies" made by religious people over centuries that serves as an interesting com n with clear biblical prophecies. These were compiled in 1956 by the Academy Library Guild of Fresno, California, under the title Prophecy for Today, and republished in 1984 by Tan Books and Publishers, Inc., of Rockford, Illinois.

The book includes the prophecy of St. Malachy, the Irish priest who supposedly foretold all of the popes that would exist up until the destruction of the great church at the coming of Antichrist. His prophecy concludes: "In the final persecution of the Holy Roman Church there shall reign Peter the Roman who will feed his flock amid many tribulations, alter which the seven-hilled city will be destroyed and the terribie judge will judge the people" (page 9).

Chapter 5 is titled "The Great Monarch and the Angelic Pastor." These two illustrious figures will supposedly unite civil and religious forces to bring a utopian peace and tranquillity to the whole world prior to the coming of Antichrist. Let us notice some of the predictions made over many centuries:

Saint Ceaser of Arles (469-543): "When the entire world, and in a special manner France and in France more particularly the provinces of the North, of the East, and above all that of Lorraine and Champagne [i.e., the region of the major battles of World War I], shall have been a prey to the greatest miseries and trials, then the provinces shall be succoured by a prince who had been exiled in his youth, and who shall recover the crown of the lilies. [The fleur-de-lis or "flower of the lily" has been the heraldic symbol of the kings of France for centuries.]

"This prince shall extend his dominion over the entire universe. At the same time there will be a Great Pope, who will be the most eminent in sanctity and most perfect in every quality. This Pope shall have with him the Great Monarch, a most virtuous man, who shall be a scion of the holy race of the French kings. This Great Monarch will assist the Pope in the reformation of the whole earth. Many princes and nations that are living in terror and impiety shall be converted, and an admirable peace shall reign among men during many years because the wrath of God shall be appeased through repentance, penance and good works. There will be one common law, one only faith, one baptism, one religion. All nations shall recognize the Holy See of Rome, and shall pay homage to the Pope. But after some considerable time fervor shall cool, iniquity shall abound, and moral corruption shall become worse than ever, which shall bring upon mankind the last and worst persecution of Antichrist and the end of the world" (page 30).

Monk Adso (died 992): "Some of our teachers say that a King of the Franks will possess the entire Roman Empire. This King will be the greatest and last of all monarchs, and after having prosperously governed his kingdom he will come in the end to Jerusalem and he will lay down his scepter and his crown upon the Mount of Olives. This will be the end and consummation of the Empire of Rome and immediately afterwards Antichrist will come" (page 31).

Abbot "Merlin" Joachim (died 1202): "The sanctity of this beneficent Pontiff will be so great that the highest potentates shall bow down before his presence. This holy man shall crush the arrogance of religious schism and heresy. All men will return to the primitive Church, and there shall be only one pastor, one law, one master humble, modest and fearing God...because only God alone can and will pour down on the wounds of humanity the oily balm of sweetness...

"The city of Babylon shall then be the head and the guide of the world. Rome, weakened in temporal power, shall preserve her spiritual dominion and shall enjoy great peace. Six and a half years after this time the Pope will render his soul to God" (page 32).

A few prophecies talk about the end of the papacy and the church. Here are two such predictions, one from a modern Pope.

Brother John of the Cleft Rock (1340): "Toward the end of the world the Pope with the Cardinals will have to flee Rome under trying circumstances to a place where he will be unknown. He will die a cruel death in this exile" (page 39).

Pope Pius X (died 1914): "I saw one of my successors by name fleeing over the corpses of his brethren. He will flee to a place for a short respite where he is unknown, but he himself will die a cruel death."

The "Antichrist"

According to the writings of these "prophets," a man of Jewish birth will be Antichrist. Here are some of the private prophecies about this person who will destroy the power of the Papacy and the Great Monarch.

Saint Methodius (died 885): "In the last period Christians will not appreciate the great grace of God who provided a Great Monarch...Many men will doubt whether the Catholic faith is the true and only saving one and whether the Jews are perhaps correct when they still expect the Messiah" (page 75).

Saint Anselm (died 1109): "Antichrist will rule the world from Jerusalem which he will make into a magnificent city" (page 76).

Dionysius of Luxembourg (died 1682): "Antichrist will be an iconoclast (even against pagan images). Most of the world will adore him. He will teach that the Christian religion is false, confiscation of Christian property is legal, Sa y is to be observed instead of Sunday, and he will change the ten commandments. He will read people's minds, raise the dead, reward his followers and punish the rest."

"Antichrist will fight a successful battle at Megiddo in Palestine after which seven rulers, from fear, will subject themselves to Antichrist and he will thereafter become lord of the world" (page 85-86).

Be Not Deceived

The existence of these predictions over centuries provides a fascinating awareness that events of the end-times have captured the abiding interest of religious people. What is obvious to God's people is that we must be certain what God prophesies so that we will not be deceived.

Jesus Christ warned his disciples in Matthew 24:4, 5 and 24: "Take heed that no one deceives you. For many will come in My name, saying, 'I am the Christ,' and will deceive many.... For false christs and false prophets will arise and show great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect."

Are we sure of our ability to discern counterfeit prophecy? These and other "prophecies" will soon be foisted on an unsuspecting world. Notice what the apostle Paul warned in 2 Thessalonians 2:9-11: "The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs and lying wonders, and with all unrighteous deception among those who [are] perish[ing], because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie" (emphasis added).

Satan is the god of this world and he has deceived the whole world with his religious system. Part of that deception is false prophecy and, as we have seen above, the counterfeit is indeed clever. To twist the roles of the principle players in the future explains why the inhabitants of the earth will fight Jesus Christ at His return; they will believe He is Antichrist!

Notice the Counterfeits

These "prophecies" mentioned a Great Monarch and an Angelic Pastor. Who does the Bible say they are?

Notice Revelation 19:19-20: "And I saw the beast [the Great Monarch], the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him who sat on the horse [Jesus Christ] and against His army. Then the beast was captured, and with Him the false prophet [the Angelic Pastor] who worked signs in his presence, by which he deceived those who received the mark of the beast and those who worshiped his image."

Notice also the interesting twist where the true s called "Antichrist" and "the terrible judge" in these prophecies. What a challenge awaits the resurrected saints in dealing with a terrified world that survives the horrors of the Day of the Lord.

A study of this, and other similar books, will reveal how we are responsible for maintaining a healthy reverence for God's word Our understanding is not of our own intellect; rather, it is a gift of God.

God's true servants have a great work to do before the famine "of hearing the words of the Lord" (Amos 8:11) comes upon this world. We still have freedom to preach and publish, but that will not always be so. "Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man" (Luke 21:36).

Appendix. Select Church of God Literature on the Beast

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What will the Beast be Like?

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