

Grand Junction, Colo.
491½ Sparn Street

July 26, 1955

Eld. Donald E. Mote
3210 Prospect Avenue
Riverside, California

Dear Brother Mote, Greetings:

I have been thinking that I should write Br. Ballenger right away in regard to a problem that I have, and now that I received your letter today I will write you instead, as I have to answer this anyway, and you can take up my problem with Br. Ballenger.

Yes, I ordered the booklet "Before Armageddon" for Brother Harlan as far back as last March. In that letter I enclosed a dollar bill, 60 cents to apply on the book and 40 cents towards extending my subscription to the "Gathering Call." I told Br. Harlan that I was ordering the book for him, and am sorry if he did not receive it. However, I am pleased that he can still get it.

Send the book to Eld. Ivan Harlan, 409 E. Pine, Lodi, California.

Yes, I believe you that you have had a lot of work in moving. I suppose it was very hard for Br. Ballenger to have to give up the home in his old days. How is his health at the present time? Is he still able to carry on his work in editing the Gathering call. I have lately been thinking several times of his age. It seems to me that he must be in his nineties. I am glad that his life has been spared all these years, so he has been able to carry on as he has in the work that it seems he has been especially called to do.

What my problem now is, and which I wish to have you take up with Br. Ballenger, and then let me know, is the seven sittings of the Woman of Revelation 17. The first head that carried her, according to "Before Armageddon", is the Justinian Government, then ~~Philip~~ Charlemagne, next Otto the Great, ~~Philip/Charles/~~ then Frederick (Barbarosa), followed by Charles V. So far it looks all right. But when it comes to Austria carrying the Catholic Church, I cannot find anything in history about that, except that the Austrian Government opposed the Catholic Church during that time. I find that recorded in various histories, and even in the Catholic Encyclopedia, under the time of Clement XIII, and Clement XIV.

Br. Ballenger (and I understand that he revised his Brother's book) seems to assert that you can find it in Catholic history, especially in the Catholic Encyclopedia, that the Austrian Power carried the church during that time. So please ask him for some of these references.

I suppose you know that a number of our Church of God ministers do not believe that the Catholic will ride the beast again in the future, whereas I do believe that the beast will carry her again up to the time of ~~the time of~~ or near to the time of the Battle of Armageddon. I am preparing articles to be published in "The Faithful Servant" for the ministers, and expect that this subject will be discussed in our next ministerial council meeting in November. So if you can help me out immediately I will appreciate it.

In taking up any matter like this, I always want to be very sure myself that things are exactly as represented, and so in trying to ~~prepare~~ material for this subject, I, of course, went into history to verify everything that I intended to use in the discussion, and in so doing I have run into this difficulty of proving that the Austrian Kingdom carried the Woman. What I found was against it.

(over)

This has caused me to consider using Constantine's Empire as carrying the woman, for I find that some things look very favorable to that, or rather I should say that under the Theodosian Empire the Church and State were united for the first time, according to what I have found in history. If I cannot get through on that premise, I may have to consider that Napoleon was the 6th head, and Mussoline the 7th, which lasted only a short time (the Roman Question was settled then), but I do not yet know if I can get through on that premise either.

I like Br. Ballenger's ~~booklet~~ booklet on "Armageddon" very well, but I cannot say that I can agree with everything in it. I certainly cannot agree that the U.S.A. is the two-horned beast.

Well, I am glad that you can be a help to Br. Ballenger. I hope you are enjoying the work. My wife and I have been in evangelistic work since ~~1934~~ 1934, but the past few years we have done more pastoral work because of our children. It was too much to drag them from school to school during one term. We did pastor the Alfred, N. Dak. Church for about a year and a half before coming back to Colorado. Our home is in Canon City, Colo. And it will be two years this coming fall since we came to Grand Junction. We have had many heartaches and disappointments in this place and still do, but we are thankful for the few that are interested. We started with about three persons outside of ourselves, and two of them soon quit, but we were able to interest others so that at the present time we have all the way from 20 to ~~25~~ 30 coming. According to my estimates, knowing what I do of the background of many of the people living around here, we should have from 50 to 60 coming right along. There are a number of Sabbatarians around here that do not go to services anywhere, and should be meeting with us.

Do you have a family? I hope that you are all well, and enjoying yourselves in the blessings of the Most High. Greet Br. Ballenger especially from us.

Yours as always,

John Kiezy