

# **History of Nations**

## **Foretold**

**The Beasts of Daniel and Revelation**



By John Kiesz

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“Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever: for wisdom and might are his: and he changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings: he giveth wisdom unto the wise, and knowledge to them that know understanding.” -Daniel 2:20, 21

By

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## The Beasts of Daniel and Revelation

“In the first year of Belshazzar king of Babylon, Daniel had a dream, and told the sum of the matters. Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea.

“And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another. The first beast was like a lion, and had eagle’s wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made to stand upon the feet as a man, and a man’s heart was given it. And behold another beast, a second like to a bear, and it raised up itself on one side, and it had three ribs in the mouth of it: and they said thus unto it, Arise, devour much flesh. And after this I beheld, and lo another, like a leopard, which had upon the back of it four wings of a fowl; the beast had also four heads; and dominion was given it. After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it: and it had ten horns. I considered the horns, and behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots; and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking great things.”-Daniel 7:1-8

### Symbols Explained

The foregoing eight verses of the seventh chapter of the book of Daniel are symbolic. This prophecy records the most concise history of the nations of the earth that was ever written. It carries us through all the ages, from the time that it was written, to the setting up of the eternal kingdom of the Most High. Prophecy is history in advance. Only the Creator revealed it to His servants. (See Isaiah 46: 9, 10; Amos 3:7; 2 Peter 1: 21.)

Winds, in symbolic language, are commonly understood to denote wars as in Jeremiah 4:10-13; 25:31-33; and 49:35, 36. The sea or waters are likewise understood to denote peoples, nations, multitudes, and tongues as explained in Revelation 17:15. Then, beasts are frequently used to represent kingdoms or empires, and horns stand for kings or rulers as in Daniel 7:17, 23 and 24. A “woman” is understood to stand for a church (see 2 Corinthians 11:2, Jeremiah 6:2, and Revelation 12:1, 17 for examples). The four beasts of Daniel 7, therefore, would symbolize the four world empires which were to rule the earth successively.

### Babylon



The first beast (i.e., the lion) represents the first kingdom, or the kingdom on the scene of action when Daniel had the vision. Babylon is represented by the lion. (Compare Daniel 7:4 with Jeremiah 4:5-7; 25:1, 2, 9, and Daniel 2:37, 38.) The Babylonian Empire existed from 606 to 538 B.C. The wings on the lion denoted swiftness, which is brought out in Jeremiah 4:6, 7, 13 and Habakkuk 1:6-8.

Ancient Babylonia seems to have been the cradle of civilization. As far as secular records are concerned, its history may be traced to about 3800 B.C. That ancient empire was for a time eclipsed by the Assyrian, which in turn was broken up by the New Babylonian (Chaldean) Empire. Nebuchadnezzar (in 606 B.C.) became the head of the New Babylonian Empire, when it was at the height of its glory, which lasted until the Medes and Persians took over in about 538 B.C.

While the Assyrians were still supreme, under the leadership of Shalmanesser, the most influential classes of the "Ten Tribes" of Israel in Samaria were taken captive to Assyria and placed in the cities of the Medes (2 Kings 17:1-23). That was in 722 B.C.

Later, when the Chaldeans became a world power under Nebuchadnezzar, the Jews in Jerusalem and Judea were taken captive to Babylon (between 606 and 586 B.C.) for a period of 70 years. It was during this time that Daniel, one of the captives, received his visions concerning the rise and fall of nations.

### Media-Persia

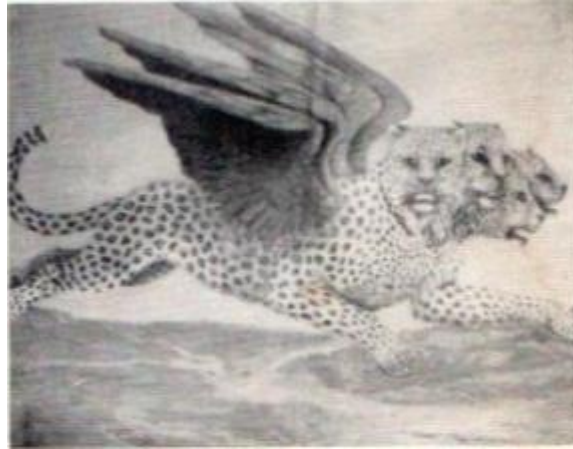


The second beast (i.e., the bear) represented the second kingdom, or what is known as the dual empire, namely the Medes and the Persians. (See Daniel 5:28 and 31; 8:3, 4, and 29.) The three ribs (tusks) in the mouth of the bear, according to the united opinion of conservative scholars, represent three kingdoms or territories. They seem to denote the three small powers which strengthened the Medes and Persians in their conquest of Babylon, as mentioned in Jeremiah 51:27-29. Bouflower, Franke, and this writer believe that two of these ribs (tusks) were Ararat and Minni (Greater and Lesser Armenia), while the third was Aschenaz (the same as Phrygia near the Hellespont).

Belshazzar was the last king of the Babylonian Empire (Daniel 5:1-31). He evidently felt secure behind the walls of the city of Babylon, which were 87 feet thick and 350 feet high, when Cyrus the Persian with his soldiers entered Babylon without fighting in 538 B.C. By 521 B.C. Babylon was in insurrection, and the following year the Persian monarch, Darius (not the Median of Daniel 5:31), pulled down her walls. The city eventually became a mass of ruins, and has never again been built up which has been in fulfillment of Isaiah 13:17-22 and Jeremiah 51:37.

Shortly after Cyrus conquered Babylonia, he made a proclamation throughout all of his kingdom that the Jews in his realm might return to Jerusalem in Judea to rebuild the city and the temple. (This was in 536 B.C.) The Medo-Persian Empire continued (for 207 years) to the battle of Arbela in 331 B.C. when it was overthrown by Alexander the Great. Another symbol of the Medo-Persian Empire used in the Bible besides the bear, was the ram with his two horns, as depicted in Daniel 8:3, 4, and 20.

## Greece



The third beast (i.e., the leopard) is symbolic of the Grecian Kingdom, which includes the four divisions of Alexander's kingdom after his death, represented by the four heads of the leopard. (See also Daniel 8:20-22.) The whole time of the Grecian Empire reached from about 331 to 168 B.C.

Philip II, ruler of Macedonia, had intentions of conquering the Persian Empire, when in the spring of 336 B.C. the expedition was ready to move, he was assassinated and his son Alexander (the Great) succeeded him to his throne, at the age of twenty. In 334 B.C. young Alexander commenced to carry out his father's scheme in regard to the Asiatic expedition.

Alexander crossed the Hellespont, and among the battles he fought in Asia should be noted the memorable siege of Tyre in Phoenicia, thus fulfilling Ezekiel's prophecy: "And I will make thee like the top of a rock: thou shalt be a place to spread nets upon; thou shalt be built no more ..." (Ezekiel 26:14).

Egypt was taken next, apparently without resistance, where he founded the city named after him -- Alexandria.

From Egypt Alexander re-commenced his march towards the Persian capital. It was on the plains of Arbela, near ancient Nineveh, in 331 B.C., when in battle with Darius, that the fate of Persia was decided. The rest of Asia capitulated quickly. However, in the midst of his great successes, Alexander was seized with a fever, brought on doubtless by his shameful excesses, and he died at Babylon in 323 B.C.

## The Division of Alexander's Empire

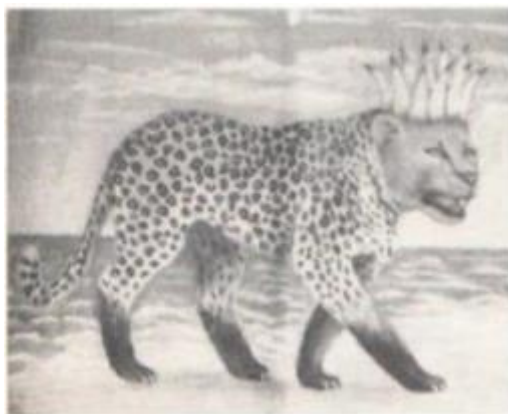


The vast empire created by Alexander was distracted by quarrels and wars among his successors until about 301 B.C. "Besides minor states, four monarchies rose out of the ruin. Their rulers were Cassander [over Macedonia], Lysimachus [over Thrace], Seleucus Nicator [over Syria], and Ptolemy [over Egypt], who had each assumed the title of king. The great horn was broken, and instead of it came

up four notable ones towards the four winds of heaven” (Myers’ *Ancient History*, pp. 286, 287; see also Daniel 8:8, 22).

Out of one of these four horns (Daniel 8:8-25) or kingdoms, namely out of the Syrian division, came forth a little horn (known in history as Antiochus Epiphanes). This took place in the later end of the Grecian Empire. Antiochus began to rule in approximately 175 B.C. over Syria, and he died 164 B.C. It was during his reign that Rome commenced to subjugate the Grecian Empire. What is of concern here in connection with Antiochus’ reign is his bitter persecution of the Jews under the Maccabees. It was during that time that he defiled the temple at Jerusalem, and trod under foot the Jews for a period of 2,300 literal evenings-mornings (days) a period of six years and four months.

### Rome



The fourth beast (which was non-descript in Daniel 7, but described as a combination of beasts in Revelation 13:1-3) was explained to Daniel to be the fourth kingdom upon the earth (Daniel 7:23). At the time of the birth of the Messiah, Rome had become a universal empire (Luke 2:1). Rome was to be the last universal kingdom that this world would ever see until the establishment of the Kingdom of God upon the earth (Daniel 2:44, 45; 7:26, 27).

By approximately 46 B.C. Julius Caesar was virtually “lord of the Roman World.” Under the rule of Augustus Caesar, Julius’ successor, from 31 B.C. to 14 A.D., the Messiah our Saviour was born in Judea, which was then under Roman control. Tiberius became Augustus’ successor, and in the midst of his reign, the Saviour was crucified.

Animated by an outstanding missionary spirit, the Messiah’s followers traversed the length and breadth of the empire, preaching everywhere this new way of life. Under Emperor Nero’s reign, in A.D. 64, more than half of the city of Rome was laid in ashes by the so-called “Great Fire.” Nero was believed to have ordered the destruction in order to rebuild it on a more magnificent fashion; so to turn attention from himself, he was said to have accused the Christians of starting the fire. History reveals that he carried out one of the most cruel persecutions against Christians that was ever recorded in all history. It has been said that the Apostle Paul was martyred during that persecution also. (See West’s *Early Progress*, pp. 340-361; and Myers’ *General History*, pp. 267, 279, 282, and 284.)

Under Emperor Vespasian’s reign, in A.D. 70 his general, Titus, captured and destroyed Jerusalem; and the remnant of the Jews were dispersed. This calamity, of course, had been predicted by the Messiah (Matthew 24:15-20; Luke 21:20-24).

Ten major persecutions by the pagan emperors against the Christians have been recorded. These all took place before the papal persecutions commenced. The first one was that of Nero, who ruled Rome from A.D. 54 to 68. The second persecution of the Christians took place under Domitian (A.D. 81-96). The third persecution was under the reign of Trajan A.D. 98-117). Marcus Aurelius (A.D. 162) permitted a fearful persecution to be instituted against the Christians, during which Justin Martyr at Rome and the aged Polycarp at Smyrna suffered death. The fifth persecution commenced with Severus

(A.D. 192); the sixth, under Maximinus (A.D. 235); the seventh, under Decius (A.D. 249); the eighth under Valerian (A.D. 257); and the ninth under Aurelian (A.D. 274).

Then, Diocletian, the last and considered the greatest of the “Barrack Emperors,” reigned from A.D. 284 to 305. Towards the end of his reign he inaugurated a severe persecution against the Christians, which was the last that was waged against the church by the pagan emperors. It lasted for ten years, thus fulfilling the prophecy of Revelation 2:10--- “Fear none of these things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.” (See also Myers’ *General History*, p. 299).

## Imperial Rome and Christianity

“Thou, O King, sawest, and behold a great image ...” This image’s head was of fine gold, his breast and his arms of silver, his belly and his thighs of brass, his legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay.

“Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them in pieces. Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.

“This is the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king. Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory. And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold. And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth. And the fourth shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise.

“And whereas thou sawest the feet and toes, part of potter’s clay, and part of iron, the kingdom shall be divided; but there shall be in it of the strength of the iron, forasmuch as thou sawest the iron mixed with miry clay. And as the toes of the feet were part of iron, and part of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong, and partly broken. And whereas thou sawest iron mixed with miry clay, they shall mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay.



“And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.” --Daniel 2:31-44

THE METAL MAN of Daniel 2 pictures the same four world empires that the four beasts of Daniel 7 do. Here, too, is a general outline of the succeeding world powers from Daniel’s time on; namely, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome. It was during the time of Rome that our Saviour came to earth and began the development of the Christian Church.

Christianity spread rapidly over the Roman world. As long as the Christians were supposed to be Jews they were not especially molested. But in the process of time they were hated and persecuted. Converts to the new religion condemned official paganism as idolatrous, since they were expected to worship the emperors. Other causes for persecution were that they refused to engage in most of the public amusements: the gladiatorial shows, the races in the circus, the plays, the dances, and the theaters. Also, the Messiah had preached peace; so many refused to fight, if drafted. Their churches were looked upon as secret societies which were contrary to Roman law, and this explains why there were so many persecutions against the Christians up to the time of Constantine.

Diocletian’s was the last (A.D. 303-313) and probably the severest of the ten major persecutions by the pagan emperors against the Christians. Soon after Diocletian’s persecution and abdication, Constantine became Emperor, and after winning the battle of Milvian Bridge he made the Christian “cross” his battle standard.

This came about when he prayed to his sun-god and there appeared a cross over the setting sun with this inscription above it: “In this sign conquer.”

This constituted a turning point in the history of the Roman Empire, as well as that of the Church. Up until then a non-military spirit had characterized the followers of the Nazarene, but all this was then changed. (See Myers’ *Ancient History*, 1904. pp. 524-527.)

By a decree issued at Milan in A.D. 313, Constantine placed Christianity on equal footing with the other religions of the empire, which put an end to the pagan persecutions. By the year A.D. 321 he had granted donations of money and land to the church, thus enriching it; and with this a worldly spirit entered the church. One among the various edicts of Constantine was that concerning Sunday, as follows:

“Let all the judges and town people, and the occupation of all trades, rest on the venerable day of the sun; but let those who are situated in the country, freely and at full liberty, attend to the business of agriculture because it often happens that no other day is so fit for sowing corn and planting vines lest the critical moment being let slip, men should lose the commodities granted them by heaven” (*Corpus Juris Civilis Cod., Liv. 3; Titus 12:3*).

### **Influence on Christianity**

The new religion, as it spread from Palestine to Gentile nations, became much altered by the religious ideas of those who accepted it. A group of the early Church Fathers strove to show that the gospel was in accord with the aspirations of the best of the pagans. Christianity and paganism tended to merge into one. From simple beginnings the church developed a distinct priesthood and an elaborate service of ceremonies and beliefs of the former modes of worship.

As time went on the Christian communities increased in size, and many joined them who had little or none of the original zeal and spirituality. So it was thought necessary to develop a regular system of church government in order to control the erring and to expel those who brought disgrace upon their religion. This and other sources indicate that the followers of the Nazarene had already come to believe in a catholic, or universal church which embraced all the true believers; and to this one universal church all had to belong who hoped to be saved. (See *Robinson’s History of Western Europe*, pp. 18-20; *West’s Early Progress*, 1920, p. 422.)



## **Divisions in Theology**

Differences of opinion arose among the believers quite early and one of the main ones was concerning the exact nature of the Messiah. Arius, a priest of Alexandria, taught that the Son of God was not equal with the Father, but had been a created Being. Athanasius, of the same city, asserted that He was not only the divine Son of God, but that He and the Father were equal in all respects, being of the same substance and co-eternal. The Trinitarians taught that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit were three distinct persons, but one God. Most of the barbarian tribes were converted to Arian Christianity, before they invaded the Roman Empire, and were reconverted to the Catholic faith after the latter became stronger (see Well's *Outline of History*, 1920, p. 546; Myers' *Ancient History*, 1904, pp. 525, 526, 577).

With the view of settling the controversy between Arians and Athanasians, Constantine called the first Ecumenical or General Council of the church at Nicea, a town of Asia Minor, A.D. 325. Arius and Athanasius in person led the fierce debate. The majority sided with Athanasius, while Arius and his followers were banished and persecuted.

The result was that the doctrine was summed up in the Nicene Creed, and became the orthodox creed of Christendom. This unity of organization helped to develop the idea of a single "Catholic" church, which should rule the whole world. (See Myers' *Ancient History*, 1904, pp. 525, 527; West's *Early Progress*, 1920, pp. 422-424; Well's *Outline of History*, 1920, pp. 550-553.)

## **The Imperial Church**

"No one can read the account of the proceedings of the Council of Nicea (325) which formulated the creed which from that period to this has been regarded as the basis of the faith of the universal church, without being convinced that the emperor was regarded as something more than the honorary president of that body, that he considered himself at least as Pontifex Maximus in the new religion as his predecessors had been in the old; and thus at the very outset was forced upon the infant Church that unholy alliance with the State which, among other things has helped to make Christianity so conscious an element in all subsequent history.

"The modern conception of the union of Church and State had its origin under Constantine. His successors, Theodosius and Gratian, define or ratify the definition of doctrines, and condemn heretics. Justinian evidently thought himself Pope and Emperor combined; and Charlemagne, in his Capitularies, is at once the legislator of the Church and in the State" (*Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge*, 1894, Vol III, p. 2070).

After the recognition of Christianity, Constantine selected Byzantium, the New Rome, on the Bosphorus, as the new capital of the empire (A.D. 330). The name of the city was changed to Constantinople, in honor of him. From the accession of Constantine down to the time of Theodosius the Great (A.D. 379-395), all religions had been allowed full toleration of worship, but now Theodosius made Christianity the only State religion. (See West's *Early Progress*, 1920, p. 420; and *A Manual of Church History*, by A. H. Newman, 1933, Vol. I, p. 310.)

## **The Rise of Church Power**

"Ideas of worldly rule by the Church were already prevalent in the fourth century .... The Church was to be ruler of the world over all nations, the divinely led ruling power over a great league of terrestrial states .... As barbarian races settled and became Christian, the Pope began to claim an over-lordship of their kings" (*The Outline of History*, by H. G. Wells, pp. 553-556; copyrighted H. G. Wells 1920, used by permission).

"A second great autocrat who presently contributed to the stamping upon Catholic Christianity of a distinctly authoritative character was Theodosius the Great (379-395)." -Ibid.

"But near the Aquila on 6 September, 394, once more the Christian Laborum triumphed over the banner of the ancient gods: Theodosius entered Rome sole master of the now finally Christian empire.

Further laws enforced the keeping of Sunday and the disabilities of pagans, Jews and heretics” (*The Catholic Encyclopedia*, Vol. XIV, p. 478).

“A memorable incident, illustrative of the influence of the new religion that was now fast taking the place of paganism marks the reign of Theodosius the Great. In a sedition caused by the arrest and imprisonment of a favorite charioteer, the people of Thessalonica, in Macedonia, had murdered the general and several officers of the imperial garrison in that place (A.D. 390). When intelligence of the event reached Theodosius who was at Milan, his hasty temper broke through all restraint, and, moved by a spirit of savage vengeance, he ordered an indiscriminate slaughter of the inhabitants of Thessalonica. The command was obeyed and at least seven thousand persons perished.

“Shortly after the massacre, the emperor, as he was entering the door of the cathedral at Milan where he was wont to worship, was met at the threshold by the pious Bishop, Ambrose, who in the name of the God of justice and mercy, forbade him to enter the sacred place until he had done public penance for his awful crime. The commander of all the Roman legions was constrained to obey the unarmed pastor. In penitential garb and attitude Theodosius made public confession of his sins and humbly underwent the penance imposed by the Church” (Myers’ *Ancient History*, 1904, pp. 535, 536).

### **Eastern and Western Rome**

The Roman world was united practically for the last time under Theodosius the Great. He was the sole Emperor from A.D. 392-395, when he finally became master of the West also. Just before his death, the Empire was divided between his two sons, giving Arcadius the government of the East, and Honorius the sovereignty of the West. This division was not intended to affect the unity of the empire, though there were two emperors; yet, at times they became hostile to each other.

The West soon fell to the barbarian invasions (A.D. 376-476), while the empire in the East lasted over a thousand years, or until the capture of Constantinople (A.D. 1453) by the Turks. (See Myers’ *Ancient History*, 1904, p. 536; West’s *Early Progress*, 1920, pp. 420, 421.)

Not only was Rome divided politically into the eastern and western sectors; but it was equally true religiously, so that the western has been termed the seat of the Roman Catholic Church and the eastern the home of the Greek Catholic Church.

And, as portrayed in Daniel’s vision of the image being struck on the feet by a stone, the consummation of the whole history of this world will be the imminent return of our Saviour as King of kings to fulfill the prediction of the establishment of the Kingdom of Glory, or as we sometimes call it, “the fifth (universal) kingdom.”

## **The Fall of the Roman Empire**

### *And the Development of the Papacy*

“And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. And the beast which I saw was like a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.”  
-- Revelation 13:1-3

THERE WERE SEVERAL CAUSES leading to the disintegration of the Roman Empire which had ruled the world since the days of the Csesars, Julius and Augustus. True civilization was declining before the final breakup of the empire. There was a dearth of men for the army, as well as a lack of money. The complex machinery of government demanded more and more taxes, so that it was said that “they who received taxes were more than they who paid them.” The final fall of the Empire began with the barbarian invasions, from A.D. 376-476 (Myers’ *Ancient History*, 1904, pp. 532-547).



This fall and division of the empire in the west is pictured by Daniel in the “ten horns” on the head of the fourth beast, thusly: “And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and another shall rise after them; and he shall be diverse from the first, and he shall subdue three kings” (Daniel 7:24).

Rome was not divided in a day, nor in a year, but gradually over a period of a century. When Western Rome at last lost her power, there were just ten (no more and no less) independent kingdoms established upon her ruins, and they were:

1. The Huns (or Alemanni) -- Germany (southern part)
2. The Franks -- France
3. The Burgundians -- Switzerland and south Gaul
4. The Anglo-Saxons -- England
5. The Visigoths -- Spain
6. The Suevi -- Portugal
7. The Lombards -- Noricum (Austria and Czechoslovakia)
8. The Vandals -- North Africa
9. The Heruli -- Italy
10. The Ostrogoths -- Pannonia (Hungary and Yugoslavia)

### **The Little Horn**

“I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots ...” (Daniel 7:8).

The import of the breakup of the Roman Empire in the west marks a turning point in the fortunes of many peoples. It brought about the so-called “Dark Ages.” It also brought about the further development of the already-existing ecclesiastical authority.

In the absence of a political ruler in the west, the bishops rapidly gained influence and power, and soon built up an ecclesiastical empire that in many respects took the place of the old empire. The bishops were made imperial officers for certain temporal affairs. The Church at Rome survived the wreck of the empire, and seems to have snatched from its dying hands the gifts of governing man-kind, which enabled it to re-establish the old empire on a grander scale, called the “Holy Roman Empire”

(Myers' *Ancient History*, 1904, pp. 546, 547, 582; *Schaff-Herzog's Religious Encyclopedia or Dictionary*, 1894, p. 2,071).

“With the final fall of the Western Empire, he [the Bishop of Rome] took over the ancient title of Pontifex Maximus, which the emperors had held, and so became the supreme sacrificial priest of the Roman tradition” (*The Outline of History*, by H. G. Wells, Copyrighted H. G. Wells, used by permission, p. 555).

The “little horn” (Daniel 7:24, 25) which subdued three kings was to be different from the other horns, which were political, so this one must be a religio-political power. It had a mouth speaking great things, and it was a persecuting power which made war with the saints. Even the most artificial reader of prophecy and history cannot help but see or know that this little horn is symbolic of the Papacy. The



*The little horn that appeared among the ten*

three Arian powers, namely the Vandals, Heruli, and the Ostrogoths were plucked up by the roots through this little horn (i.e., by Justinian and by the influence of the bishops) which sprang up among the ten horns. One of the factors which eventually led to the destruction of the three Arian powers was the controversy in the church regarding the nature of the Son of God, which has been called the Arian Controversy (West's *Early Progress*, 1920, p. 423; Well's *Outline of History*, 1920, pp. 445, 446; Myers' *Ancient History*, 1904, pp. 576, 577).

The Heruli, under the leadership of Odoacer, occupied Italy from 476 to 493, when they were rooted up by the Ostrogoths, led by their king Theodoric. The Vandals of Northern Africa, under Justinian's rule, were vanquished by the general Belisarius, from about 533 to 535. A strong appeal from the bishop moved the emperor to deliver the Catholic Church out of the hands of the so-called heretics.

The Ostrogoths, who had replaced the Heruli of Italy, and who also ruled over other portions from the time of Odoacer (493), were plucked up during Justinian's reign from 538 to 554. The Ostrogothic kingdom, the last of the three horns to be plucked up by the roots, was first attacked and routed by the general Belisarius in about 538. However, the Emperor recalled Belisarius, and soon the Goths, under a new leader, were again in possession of Rome. But the entreaties of the Pope and the Italians moved Justinian again to attempt to expel their enemies which was done under the famous Narses; and Italy once more became a part of the Roman Empire about 554. (See Chamber's *Encyclopedia*, Vol. IV, pp. 214, 659, 734, 735; Vol. V, p. 668; Vol. I, p. 603; Myers' *Ancient History*, pp. 546, 571-573, 592, 593; Myers' *Medieval and Modern History*, pp. 14-18, 62-65.)

## **The Seven Kingdoms**

With the three Arian powers rooted out, and their national existence destroyed, that left just seven nations occupying the territory of the original ten kingdoms. Any attempt to prove that only the authority of the three kings was set aside, and that all of the ten kingdoms continued to exist as such, is altogether incorrect. It is a serious mistake to claim that the toes of the metal man (Daniel 2) symbolize the same power of that period of time as that of the ten horns into which Rome was divided by the end of 476. The very fact that our Saviour will return in the days of these kings (i.e. in the time and under the condition of the toes), and since He did not return to set up His Kingdom in the days of the ten kingdoms into which Rome was formerly divided, is proof that the kingdoms represented by the toes of the metal image have not yet come, and that they are not the same as the ten horns of the beast of Daniel 7.

Our prophetic expositors seem to have overlooked the feet of the image as a separate division of the image, aside from the toes. We are not yet living in the days of the kings (or toes) in which our Master will return to set up His Kingdom (Daniel 2:44), but we are still living in the time of the feet of the image. The iron and clay condition (of the feet) has existed for many centuries, and conditions will be similar with the toes when they develop. The writer believes that the toes are now in a stage of development in Europe, through the "Common Market." It bears close observation.

No one can really understand the text, "In the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom," until he thoroughly studies and understands the 17th chapter of Revelation.

The ten horns mentioned in Daniel 7:24, coinciding with the ten mentioned in Revelation 13:1, are not the same ten horns as described in Revelation 17:7 and 12 in point of time. The former horns (or kingdoms) are the result of the breaking up of the Roman Empire from about 376 to 476 (Myers' *Ancient History*, 1904, pp. 532-547), and they existed before the Papacy came into full power; whereas the ten horns of Revelation 17 appear only after the Papacy has existed and has nearly run its course, and also after it has ruled over the seven heads; then they (the horns) appear just in time to destroy the woman during the Battle of Armageddon. The original ten horns on the fourth beast of Daniel 7 did not give their power to the beast for one hour at that time; but the ten horns of the scarlet-colored beast will do so voluntarily when the time comes (Revelation 17:12, 13).

At the time of the 6th head (Revelation 17:10, 12) the ten horns had not yet received their kingdoms, but they will receive them after the appearance of the 8th head, which will actually be a revival of one of the seven that have already fallen. Furthermore, the former ten horns (Revelation 13:1) had crowns, but it is not so with the latter-mentioned ones (Revelation 17:3). The ten horns of Revelation 17:12, 13, and the toes of the metal man do coincide, however.

## **Mistakes of the Futurists**

There are those who contend that the antichrist is still future, in the person of a Jew who is yet supposed to rule from Jerusalem. This doctrine is a fallacy. The apostle Paul wrote that the mystery of iniquity was already working in his day (2 Thessalonians 2:7). The man of sin (the same as the antichrist), who exalted himself above God, and sat in the temple of God, showing himself to be God, was none other than the Papacy which appeared as the "little horn" after the Roman Empire fell to pieces between 376 and 476. (See Daniel 7:24 and 25.)

In applying the symbol of the "little horn" to the Papacy, it may appear as "anti-Catholic propaganda." To make this identification does not necessarily reveal prejudice, bitterness, or bigotry. We believe that in explaining some of the marks of identification as to the "little horn," or to the woman of the Apocalypse, we are merely pointing out and verifying known historical facts, in harmony with the predictions of the prophets.

If we state that the Jewish hierarchy was responsible for the death of the Messiah, are we guilty of engaging in anti-Semitism? Or are we only stating verified facts of history? If we state that the Communist regime has been responsible for the brain-washing, torture and death of many innocent folks, should we be considered ill-bred or hateful? Or are we just re-stating a well-known fact of history?

We believe the same principle applies when we advocate separation of Church and State. We should not be considered religious bigots for rehearsing historical facts of what has transpired when Church and State were united, or when we state what we believe will again take place, for Romanism is both a spiritual and temporal institution. (See the *Question Box*, by the Paulist Press, on the subject of the temporal power of the popes.)

After the three Arian kingdoms or horns -- namely the Heruli, the Vandals, and the Ostrogoths -- were plucked up by the roots (Daniel 7:8, 24), or were taken out of the way (2 Thessalonians 2:6, 7) between the years 493 and 554; then the "little horn" mounted the scarlet-colored beast (Revelation 17:3-7), and for 1,260 years persecuted the saints (Revelation 12:6, 14; 13:5-7). The Pope, as head of the Romish woman, ruled not only over the church, but together with her also over the nations of the earth.

The Almighty has not for a long time recognized any material building on earth as His temple (John 4:21-24; Acts 17:24), but His children (the true Church) are considered as the temple of the living God (Ephesians 2:20-22; 2 Corinthians 6:16). While the Pope of Rome, or the man of sin, sat in the temple (i.e., he sat among the people), he acted to them as God, or in the place of God (2 Thessalonians 2:3, 4). We quote to show that this has been literally true:

"The Pope is of such dignity and highness that he is not simply a man, but as it were, God, and the Vicar of God....The Pope is crowned with a triple crown, as king of heaven, of earth and of hell. ... The Pope alone is deservedly called by the name of Most Holy, because he alone is the Vicar of Christ" (from an article on the Pope, *Prompto Bibliotheca*, Art., "Papa," Vol. VI, p. 26, etc., in *Ecclesiastical Dictionary*, by Ferraris.)

Part of the encyclical of Pope Leo XIII (June 20, 1894) reads: "The Pope holds upon this earth the place of God."

The term *anti-Christ* does not necessarily indicate open atheism or unbelief. The most approved meaning of the prefix *anti* is "over against, instead of, in place of." Thus "anti-Christ" is one who puts himself in the place of Christ -- a vice-Christ.

Doctor Hale, an old English writer, asserts: "The vicegerent of Jesus Christ, which by a singular coincidence, meant the same as the obnoxious 'Antichristus', originally signifying a pro-Christ, or deputy-Christ, or false Christ, who assumed his authority and acted in his stead."

### **Blasphemous Utterances**

It was predicted in both Daniel and Revelation that this power (the man of sin) would blaspheme (Daniel 7:8, 24; Revelation 13:5, 6). It is blasphemy to claim that the Holy Roman Church was the "Kingdom of God" on earth (for references see *Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia*, Vol. III, p. 1,515; *Commentary on the Whole Bible*, by Jamieson, Faussett & Brown, p. 599; and *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 1954, Vol. XV, p. 496), when in reality it was merely Satan's kingdom (Revelation 2:9; 13:2). And that this power would, as a kingdom, rule over the kingdoms of the earth, was also prophesied (Revelation 17:18).

Another way in which this power blasphemes is by claiming that the Pope of Rome is the "infallible" head of the Church. Such prerogative belongs to our Master and Redeemer (Ephesians 5:23), and not to the Pope. To be called "God" or the "Vicar of God" is also blasphemy. There is no other God, besides the One Who created the heavens and the earth (Isaiah 42:8; 44:6, 8).

Herewith follows some more that shows how Roman Catholics have regarded the infallibility and supremacy of the Pope: "All the names which are attributed to Christ in Scripture, implying His supremacy over the church, are also attributed to the Pope." (Mellarmine, on the "Authority of Councils," Book 2, Chapter 17, as quoted in "The Rise and Fall of Nations," by E. E. Franke.)

Cardinal Manning, speaking in the name of the infallible Pope, wrote: "I say I am liberated from all civil subjection, that my Lord made me subject to no one on earth, king or otherwise; that in His right I am sovereign. I acknowledge no civil superior; I am subject of no prince, and I claim more than this: I claim to be the supreme judge on earth and the director of the consciences of men, of the peasant that tills the fields, and the prince that sits on the throne, and of the household that lives in the shade of

privacy, and the legislature that makes laws for the kingdoms. I am the sole supreme judge on earth of what is right or wrong.” (*From Ecclesiastical Sermons*, Vol III, p. 81, as quoted by W. S. Lilly, “Characteristics, etc, from the writings of Henry Edward Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster,” 1885, p. 25.)

“They have assumed infallibility, which belongs only to God. They profess to forgive sins, which belongs only to God. They profess to open and shut heaven, which belongs only to God. They profess to be higher than all the kings of the earth, which belongs only to God. And they go beyond in pretending to loose whole nations from their oath of allegiance to their kings, when such kings do not please them. And they go against God, when they give indulgences for sin. This is the worst of all blasphemies.” (Adam Clarke, on Daniel 7:25.)

## **The Reign of the Antichrist**

“Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. Therefore watch and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn everyone night and day with tears.” -- Acts 20:28-31

THERE ARE MANY ANTICHRISTS (1 John 2:18). But there was one in particular that the Apostles predicted would come, not too far in the future from their day (2 Thessalonians 2:1-8; 1 John 4:1). The spirit of antichrist confesses not that the Messiah is come in the flesh. Most folks claim that Roman Catholics do believe that our Saviour has come in the flesh, and therefore cannot be accused of being the antichrist. Let us see.

One of the earmarks of the antichrist is that he denies that Jesus Christ came in human or sinful flesh. This is done by the Catholics by teaching the immaculate conception, which means that Mary the mother of our Saviour was supposed to have been preserved from all stain of original sin. She was supposed to have been “purer than the angels, holier than the archangels.” Because of that, say they, our Master did not come in sinful flesh, but was partaker of “divine flesh.” Several references could be cited to show that they teach such, but here we will just refer the reader to *The Question Box*, pages 358-360, by B. L. Conway, published by the Paulist Press, 401 West 59th Street, New York.

This unscriptural teaching of the Catholic Church places Mary as a mediator between God and men, as can also be perceived by hearing them offering prayers to Mary, instead of leaving the mediatorship to God’s Son alone. That Mary herself was in need of salvation can be seen from her own statement, according to Luke 1:47 – “And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Saviour.” Hereby Mary acknowledged that she too was among those who “... have sinned, and come short of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23; cf. Galatians 3:22).

Though the Son of God was divine, He actually was partaker of sinful flesh; that is, flesh like the flesh of all men, as can be seen from such statements as: “... was made in the likeness of men” (Philippians 2:7), “in the likeness of sinful flesh” (Romans 8:3), “... took on him the seed of Abraham” (Hebrews 2:16), “... the word was made flesh ...” (John 1:14), “... was in all points tempted like as we are ...” (Hebrews 4:15), “... hath made him to be sin for us...” (2 Corinthians 5:21).

### **Past or Future?**

We hear a great deal today about the antichrist who is still to come. If all the predictions concerning the antichrist are still future, then what about all the bloodshed of the Dark Ages? Read Foxe’s *Book of Martyrs*, and be convinced. Where does that long period of martyrdom come in, that had been prophesied, if there was no antichrist then? (See Revelation 12:6, 14; 13:7; 17:5, 6.) The antichrist that will be ruling over a federation of nations again in the future, will be none other than the one that

will be revived from his fall of authority and power which took place through the Protestant Reformation.

Those who teach that all the predictions concerning the antichrist are yet future, condemn the Protestants and justify the Romanists. Luther, Knox, Calvin, Melancthon, the Albigenses, Waldenses, Huguenots, Lollards, Wycliffites, Hussites and other reformers recognized the Pope of Rome as being the antichrist. Futurists are playing into the hands of the revivalists of the old so-called Holy Roman Empire, it is believed.

Because the papacy claimed to be the vicar of Christ and the head of the Church, the old Westminster [*Presbyterian*] *Confession* (Chapter XXV, Section VI) affirms: "There is no other head of the Church but the Lord Jesus Christ; nor can the *Pope of Rome* in any sense be the head thereof; but *is that Antichrist*, that man of sin and son of perdition, that exalteth himself in the Church against Christ, and all that is called God" (emphasis ours).

The *Lutheran Church* -- Many Lutherans still share the same view as expressed in the Smalcald Articles: "*The Pope is the very anti-Christ, who exalted himself above, and opposed himself against Christ, because he will not permit Christians to be saved without his power, which, nevertheless, is nothing, and is neither ordained nor commanded by God...*" (emphasis ours).

### **Changed Times and Laws**

"And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws ['He shall think himself able to change times and laws' -Douay Version]; and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time" (Daniel 7:25).

Catholics have, in their catechisms used in their schools, omitted the second commandment of the Decalogue altogether, for the obvious reason that it forbids bowing down to images.

As for the fourth commandment, Constantine, the Roman Emperor, seems to have been the first one whom we have a record of who issued an edict that Sunday be kept as a legal holiday. The Council of Laodicea, A.D. 364, anathematized those who kept the Sabbath and urged all persons to labor on the seventh day under penalty of anathema, according to Priest Enright.

### **Babylon the Great**

A woman when used in a symbolic or prophetic sense, represents a church (Jeremiah 6:2; Isaiah 51:16; 2 Corinthians 11:2; Ephesians 5:22-33; Revelation 12:1, 17; 19:6-9). A pure woman, as pictured in Revelation 12, represents the True Church; whereas a corrupt woman, like the one pictured in Revelation 17 as a whore and as "Babylon the Great," represents a fallen or apostate church. All well-informed students of Scripture and history recognize that this refers to the Roman Catholic Church, with its headquarters in the city of Rome.

Rome at one time acquired the name of the "City of the Seven Hills" (Myers' *Ancient History*, p. 371). Rome literally sits on seven hills, and it is the seat of the woman also (Revelation 17:9). Herewith, however, we are interested primarily in the symbolic phase of the prophetic seven hills or mountains, which symbolize seven kingdoms or federations.

The scriptural definition for the symbol of this woman of Revelation 17 is that she "... is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth" (verse 18). Unless one understands what is represented by the harlot, he will not be able to locate the seven heads, or mountains (kingdoms) on which the woman sat. The word *reigneth*, as used in the King James Version, is a verb, but in the ancient Greek it is a noun, and the word *basileia*, meaning "a kingdom" is used. There are several versions which give it in harmony with the Greek.

"And the woman which thou sawest, is the great city, which hath a kingdom over the kings of the earth" (Concordant Version).

The Revised Version (1901 edition), also, in the margin for the word *reigneth*, gives it as "*hath a kingdom.*" (See also the Douay and Luther versions.)



And so this great city or kingdom was actually an ecclesiastical or church kingdom. It held dominion over the kingdoms of the earth by its deceiving sorceries; and by an unlawful alliance with the kings of the earth it made the inhabitants of the earth drunk with “the wine of her fornication.” This system was also drunk with the blood of the saints (see Revelation 17:6). This woman, or church kingdom, while she was riding upon the beast, had upon her forehead a name written; namely, “MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS, AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH” (Revelation 17:5).

### **Identity of the Beast**

A serious mistake that has been made in interpreting the beasts of Daniel and Revelation is that it has been thought that the phase or stage of the beast of Revelation 17 is the same as the fourth beast of Daniel 7. A close study of this subject will reveal that the fourth beast, as a world empire, existed BEFORE the Papacy came into full control of the political powers. This fourth beast came to its end, as such, by about A.D. 476. But the beast described in Revelation 17, upon which the woman rode in its various phases, came into existence as federations of nations only AFTER the Papacy fully developed into a religio-political power.

We have no record that any of the four beasts of Daniel 7 were red in color, and so we would not expect the amalgamated beast of Revelation 13:1, 2 to be red. Rather, we would expect it to be the color of a leopard. However, it is different with the beast upon which the woman rode. That beast was red, even scarlet-colored (Revelation 17:3). It was still a Roman beast, but in a different aspect. Formerly, in its amalgamated state, it was Pagan Rome, but when the woman (the church) began to ride upon the beast after the deadly wound was healed by Justinian, it then took the form of what may be called Papal Rome, or the “Holy Roman Empire.”

We have learned that in figurative language a beast represents a kingdom (Daniel 7:23). But in the case of the scarlet colored, seven-headed, ten-horned beast, we find that each separate head is called a mountain or kingdom (Revelation 17:9, 10). The woman sits upon many waters when her judgment, or destruction, takes place. What these “many waters” symbolize is explained in verse 15: “The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.”

So, the beast upon which the woman sat represented a kingdom composed of many nations speaking different languages. The woman rode upon each head (kingdom or federation of nations) separately, or successively. Kings do also stand for kingdoms (Daniel 7:17, 23). The woman sat upon each of the seven heads, or kingdoms, as they appeared in succession, as can be seen from the fact that “five are fallen, one is, and the other is not yet come” (Revelation 17:10).

And since the woman sat upon one of the seven, when the head (the beast) fell, and which will again appear as the eighth, it follows that these kingdoms all appeared in the lifetime of the woman. None of these seven heads, upon which the woman rode, existed prior to the origin of the Papacy. She could not have been sitting upon any of the ancient nations like Egypt, Assyria, Medo-Persia, or Greece, for she herself did not then exist. Since she (i.e. Babylon the Great) is called the mother of harlots, we must recognize that she was the forerunner of most all the other churches we have in the world today, and it is a fact that the daughters did not exist before Babylon the Great did.

It is true that the Babylonish spirit existed from ancient times, but the woman (the Roman Catholic Church) did not then exist. The statement: “And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth” (Revelation 18:24), does not necessarily mean that the woman existed from the foundation of the world any more than the generation of Jews existed from the foundation of the world to whom our Master said: “That upon you may come all the righteous blood shed upon earth” (Matthew 23:24-36). It is not until after the fourth universal Empire (Rome) appeared, had ten horns, and had three of them plucked up, that the woman mounted the seven heads one after another, with the Antichrist the head of the Church.

## The Time of the Beast

The statement, "Five are fallen," does not mean that five heads had fallen when John saw this vision of the beast and the woman, anymore than it means that the woman was drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus prior to John's vision. Neither the corrupt woman, nor the martyrs of Jesus existed before the birth of the Saviour. Nor did the seven-headed and ten-horned leopard beast exist in all its phases prior to the fall of Rome.

Many informed students of history know that the ten horns did not develop or come into existence until Western Rome broke up into ten parts from 376 to 476. Five had fallen (that is, five heads had fallen) when John saw the beast that "was not" at the time of the sixth head; and when the beast that "was not" will again appear, it will be after the seventh head. This eighth kingdom is a revival of one of the seven fallen heads which carried the woman.

The seven heads upon which the Papacy rode were all in the same territory and among the same people, as a number of heads upon the scarlet colored beast would symbolize. The heads (or federations of nations) over which the woman ruled have risen and fallen one after another, but the woman herself has not even to this date gone out of existence. Although there was a time of 42 months, or 1,260 days, specifically allotted to the beast (Revelation 13:5), the beast will once more be revived. It will then be known as the eighth and last one (Revelation 16:12-16; 17:8-14; 19:19, 20).

Since the three horns (the three Arian kingdoms) were to be plucked up first by the "little horn," and then the "little horn" was to wear out the saints of the Most High for a period of three and a half times (or 1,260 years), we must look for the temporal power of the popes to commence the 1,260 year period. You will recall that the head which received a deadly wound (the Roman head, Revelation 13:3) was healed again. This healing took place when Justinian (with the entreaties of the African bishop and the Pope) subdued the Vandals and the Ostrogoths. It was then (from 533 to 554) that the imperial power of the West was restored. This healed head (or the restored beast from then on in its scarlet colored stage) was the first one to carry the woman. Taking the date of the last uprooting of the three horns, i.e., 554, and adding the 1,260 years we arrive at 1814 when the "Holy Roman Empire" came to its end under Napoleon Bonaparte. He was the last (the seventh) head that carried the Papacy.

"I say then that it was God's own act which liberated His vicar upon earth from subjection to temporal power; and that for twelve hundred years the bishops of Rome have reigned as temporal princes." (Cardinal Manning, in *Temporal Power*, p. 16.)



Upper illustration symbolizes Pagan; and the lower, Papal Rome

## The Seven Religio - Political Heads

*“And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth. And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space. And the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition.” -- Revelation 17: 9-11.*

### THE PAPAL TIARA

Concerning the time for wearing of the tiara, Pope Innocent III, speaking of the coronation of the Pope and church services, says: “For a Sign of Spiritual power He bestowed on me a miter; for a sign of temporal power He gave me a crown (corona); a miter for the priesthood, a crown for the kingdom, appointing me Vicar of Him who, both in His garment and on His thigh, had written: ‘King of kings, the Lord of lords,’ a priest according to the order of Melchisedec.”

(Glossary of Ecclesiastical Ornament and Costume, by Augustus W. Pugin, p. 173)



“AND I SAW ONE OF HIS HEADS AS IT WERE WOUNDED TO DEATH; AND HIS DEADLY WOUND WAS HEALED ...” (Revelation 13:3).

IF THE WOUNDING of one of the heads of the leopard beast was the breaking up (or the fall) of the Roman Empire in A.D. 476, then the healing of that deadly wound was the restoration of the injured empire. History records who the man was who made the first effort to restore the Roman Empire in the West, and it also records six other emperors who succeeded in making temporary reconstructions which, in Revelation, were called the heads or mountains of the scarlet-colored beast upon which the woman rode.

The first earthly government to profess Christianity was the Constantine Empire, but it was not until the three Arian kingdoms (the three horns) were plucked up by the roots (Daniel 7:24, 25) that the woman actually sat upon the first head of the seven-headed, ten-horned, scarlet-colored beast. The seven heads (or federations of nations) upon which the woman (the Roman Catholic Church) sat, one after another, were:

- |    |                |         |
|----|----------------|---------|
| 1. | Justinian      | 527-565 |
| 2. | Charlemagne    | 800-814 |
| 3. | Otto the Great | 962-973 |

4. Frederick Barbarossa 1152-1190
5. Charles V 1520-1556
6. Louis XIV 1661-1715
7. Napoleon Bonaparte 1804-1814

### **The First Head**

Justinian ascended the throne of the Eastern Empire in 527. Before his reign the schism had begun between the Greek and the Roman churches. He healed that schism by force in favor of Rome. A terrible persecution was inaugurated by this monarch in order to make all conform to the Papal rule (see Gibbon's *Decline and Fall of Rome*, Vol. IV, pp. 528-531). Gibbons also stated that "Justinian reigned over sixty-four provinces and nine hundred and thirty-five cities" (Ibid. p. 64; in the condensed edition, pp. 404, 405).

"Under the direction of his generals, and especially of the celebrated Narses and Belisarius, his reign may be said to have restored the Roman Empire, at least in outward appearance, to its ancient limits, and to have reunited the East and West under a single rule" (*Chamber's Encyclopedia*, Vol. IV, p. 735). Myers' *Ancient History* (p. 592), West's *Early Progress* (p. 438), and Robinson's *History of Western Europe* (p. 33) also refer to Justinian as "The Restorer of the Empire of the West."

In 531, Justinian, the ruler of the eastern half of the old Roman world, where the churches still protested against the arrogant claims of Rome, decreed and enforced by arms the subjugation of the whole church to the Roman Pope; and in 532 or 533 he bestowed upon him the title of *Rector Ecclesiae*, or Lord of the Church (D'Aubigne's *Reformation*, Vol. I, p. 42; Justinian's Code, Book 1, Title 1, Baronius' *Annals*, A.D. 533; and *A Manual of Church History*, by A. H. Newman, 1933, p. 403).

"Justinian's Code was taught to the barbarian nations of Europe by the church. Since ecclesiastical laws were a part of Justinian's Code, the spiritual as well as the temporal power of the Papacy was strengthened. Ecclesiastical laws were enforced by civil laws. The medieval church became in fact, if not in theory, a 'most potent political institution.' ... The final outcome of the decree of Justinian and the enforcement of canon law was the establishment of a totalitarian church" (*Christian Heritage*, March 1963, pp. 19, 20).

It is true that, while Justinian made the Bishop of Rome the HEAD OF ALL THE CHURCHES, the decree could not be carried out to the fullest extent until the last of the Arian powers (2 Thessalonians 2:6, 7) was rooted up, which took place when Belisarius began to defeat the Ostrogoths. Belisarius was recalled before the conquest was completed, but the entreaties of the Pope and the Italians at length moved Justinian to send the famous eunuch Narses, who soon obtained possession of Rome, and once more made it a part of the Roman Empire in 554. (Myers' *Medieval and Modern History*, 1885, pp. 62-65.)

Thus, we see how the wounded head (Revelation 13:3) was healed with the restoration of the empire in the West. By the time Justinian had become the civil as well as the religious head of the Empire, all the provinces of the West had been permanently occupied by the barbarian invaders. But the Roman church, with the Pope at its head, not only revived the wreck of the Roman Empire, but also began governing mankind after her own methods and pretensions, under the idea of a "Holy Roman Empire," though it was not officially called that until the crowning of Charlemagne by the Pope, in 800. (See *Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge*, 1894, Vol. III, pp. 2,071, 2,072.)

Justinian's reign, then, marks the beginning of the Papacy's spiritual and civil control (*A Manual of Church History*, by A. H. Newman, 1933, p. 404); and thus it can be said that the church which sat on the first head (of the scarlet-colored beast) or kingdom was the Roman Catholic Church. The first head which carried the woman was the Justinian empire. All the other heads, or federations of nations, upon which the woman sat, follow the first one. These heads represent the times and emperors who reigned after the breaking up of the fourth world empire in 476.

## The Second Head

After the death of Justinian, enemies from at least two sides threatened the Roman Catholic Church: the Lombards on the one side, and Emperor Leo III, on the other. The emperor, Leo of Constantinople, condemned the use of all images in religious worship. The Pope of Rome seeing his danger, called the Frankish Catholic Chief, Charles Martel, to help the church. Charles died before he could answer the call, but his son Pippin (surnamed the Short) made a good use of the new friendship with Rome.

Upon Pippin's death, his son Charles, or Charlemagne, defeated the Lombards, and proceeding to Rome, was welcomed by the people as their deliverer and leader. On Christmas Day, 800, Pope Leo III crowned Charlemagne with the diadem of the Caesars, and the shout of the multitude pronounced the union, so long in preparation. Thus was the empire in the West restored a second time. (See Bryce's *Holy Roman Empire*, pp. 36, 37, 45-47; Myers' *Ancient History*, pp. 574, 603-607.)

After the crowning of Charlemagne, the harlot woman is seen sitting on the second mountain (or the second head) of human government. "Among his intimate friends he chose to be called by the name of David, exercising in reality all the powers of the Jewish king; presiding over this kingdom of God upon earth as a second Constantine or Theodosius rather than in the spirit and traditions of the Julii or the Flavii. Among his measures there are two which in particular recall the first Christian Emperor. As Constantine founds, so Charles erects on a firmer basis the connection of Church and State" (Bryce's *Holy Roman Empire*, p. 64).

## The Third Head

After the death of Charlemagne (Charles the Great), society again began to decline, and anarchy and misery reigned until the reign of Otto the Great, and this decline covered a period of 150 years. The Empire was not considered extinct, but suspended, and it was desired that its effective power be restored. (Bryce's *The Holy Roman Empire*, pp. 74-85.)

"So in 962, just a little more than a century and a half after the coronation at Rome of Charlemagne as Emperor, Otto, at the same place and by the same Papal authority, was crowned Emperor of the Romans ... Otto the Great of Germany, like a second Charlemagne, restored once more the fallen Imperial power, which now became known as the Holy Roman Empire, the heads of which from this time on were German kings" (Myers' *Medieval and Modern History*, pp. 144, 145, 324, 325).

Thus we see that the Holy Roman Empire was restored a third time, and while it was in this condition it carried the woman again, as the third head or mountain. Otto the Great was the third head or mountain to carry the Papacy.

## The Fourth Head

For nearly a hundred years, following the crowning of Otto the Great as emperor of the Romans, there was general peace in most of Europe. However, when Gregory VII (Hildebrand) was made Pope in 1073, and soon after declared that it was sin for the ecclesiastics (i.e., for the bishops and abbots) to be appointed by the monarch, a long and bitter struggle began between the Papacy and the empire. This controversy is known in history as "The Conflict of Investitures."

Henry IV of Germany gave the Pope the most formidable opposition, refusing to recognize the decree of Gregory, and even called a council of the clergy of Germany, deposing the Pope. At Rome, Gregory in turn gathered a council and deposed and excommunicated the emperor. This caused a revolt of some of Henry IV's subjects, and his authority slipped out of his hands. As a result, he went to Gregory for pardon and reinstatement, but Gregory refused to permit the penitent to his presence. For three days Henry IV stood with bare feet in the snow of the palace courtyard. On the fourth day the penitent king was admitted to the presence of Pope Gregory, who reinstated him in favor. But the struggles did not end there.

In the twelfth century began the fierce contention between the Papal See and the emperors of the proud House of Hohenstaufen. The final outcome was the triumph of the Roman Bishops and the utter ruin of the Hohenstaufens. The most noted ruler of this line was Frederick I (Barbarossa), from his red beard (1152-1190). Frederick was crowned at Rome by Pope Eugenius III, and was called Holy Roman Emperor (*Encyclopedia Britannica*, 1954 ed., Vol. IX, p. 710; Myers' *Medieval and Modern History*, pp. 222-226, 327-329; West's *Early Progress*, pp. 526-530; Bryce's *Holy Roman Empire*, pp. 149-165).

“The authority of the Popes was at its height during the thirteenth century. The beginning of this period of Papal splendor is marked by the accession to the pontifical throne of Innocent III (1152-1216), the greatest of the Popes after Gregory VII. Under him was very nearly made good the Papal claim that all earthly sovereigns were merely vassals of the Roman Pontiff. Almost all the kings and princes of Europe swore fealty to him as their overlord. ‘Rome was once more the mistress of the world’” (Myers' *Medieval and Modern History*, p. 226).

Thus, this defeated Roman Catholic Church emerged again from her third experience of chaos and humiliation to sit upon and rule over the nations in Europe. The Hohenstaufen emperors represent the fourth head (or fourth federation of nations) upon which the woman rode. The “Holy Roman Empire” was restored for the fourth time.

### **The Fifth Head**

Following the Hohenstaufen Emperors' sovereignty, the usefulness of the empire began to decline until it all but faded out. The period from 1250 to the election of Rudolph, count of Hapsburg, an insignificant state in Switzerland, in 1273 was known as the “Great Interregnum.” Austria then became a possession of the Hapsburgs. And while the new imperial line of kings was recognized by the popes, it was not until the sixteenth century that a distinguished leader came forward, giving power and prestige to the empire.

In the year 1500 there was born in the city of Ghent, in the Netherlands, a prince who was destined to play a great part in the history of the sixteenth century. This was Charles V, eldest son of Philip, Archduke of Austria, and of Joanna, the daughter of Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain. Upon the death of his grandfather, Maximilian, he was elected German emperor; thus, circumstances opened the way for this prince to the inheritance of more extensive dominions than any European monarch since Charlemagne had possessed.

On October 22, 1520, Charles V was crowned, at Bologna, by Pope Leo X, as the Roman Emperor. By that time the Protestant Reformation was agitating Europe, and Charles V employed the strength and resources of his Empire to uproot the heresy of the Reformation. He was strongly imbued with the idea that Church and Empire were indissoluble. It was upon this fifth mountain or kingdom that the Church of Rome sat when Martin Luther appeared before the emperor at the Diet of Worms, on April 7, 1521. But the Protestant reformers had friends among the German Protestant princes; and Charles V, encountering also other difficulties, soon abdicated and died in the year 1558. The Roman Empire declined more and more in power and influence, after it had been restored the fifth time.

It was the Sword of the Spirit, i.e., the Word of God, which wounded the fifth head, or the Holy Roman Empire. When the Sword of the Protestant nations was sheathed at the Peace of Westphalia, in 1648, the power of the emperor was reduced to a shadow. For more information on the history of this fifth mountain era, see Myers' *Medieval and Modern History*, pp. 382-394; Bryce's *Holy Roman Empire*, pp. 316-341; West's *Early Progress*, pp. 604-610.

### **The Sixth Head**

Although the Holy Roman Empire received a wound through the Protestant Reformation (Revelation 14:8), that did not mean that it was completely annihilated. As always, the Roman Catholic Church knows no retreat. Spain, Italy, France, Belgium, Bohemia, and South Germany were finally saved to Catholicism, which largely was due to the “Counter-Reformation” in the Catholic Church itself. That was not the only means, but another method of coercion that the Papists used was the Inquisition,

which was pursued for a long time in several countries. See history for enlargement upon this topic of the Inquisition.

Louis XIV, king of France from 1661 to 1715, had dreams of a world-wide empire, as a recast of Charlemagne's career. He became a representative of absolute monarchy, believing that kings have a "divine right" to rule. During the period of his personal administration of the government, Louis XIV was engaged in four great wars of aggression and conquest, coming out of this tremendous struggle with fresh acquisitions of territory.

At first he had quarrels with the Pope, but he drifted in his later years to the propitiation of the Papacy, which had hitherto been hostile to him. Overcome by arguments and supplications, Louis XIV, in 1685, with the sanction and applaud of the Roman Pontiff, repealed the Edict of Nantes, which was the well-known decree by which Henry IV had secured religious freedom for the French Protestants.

As a consequence of this annulment, the dragonnades were made use of, and the Protestants (especially the Huguenots) were severely persecuted, with the hope that the insulting behavior of the soldiers might frighten the heretics into accepting the religion of the king, which was Catholic. Under the fierce persecutions of the dragonnades, several hundred thousand of the most skilful and industrious Protestants were driven out of France. Most of them seemed to settle down in other parts of Europe, but many also found ultimately a refuge in America. Historians say that this ruined France, and was largely the cause of its speedy downfall.

Those who did not escape from France were compelled by many modes of torture, vexation, and suffering to violate their consciences and outwardly to conform to that Romish religion which they abhorred in their hearts. The persecuting countries, like France, Spain, and Italy, so destroyed honest evangelical teaching that these people became mainly Catholic believers or Catholic atheists. Much of the free-thinking that preceded the French Revolution and which in 1793 caused all religion to be outlawed from France, can be traced to that time.

Thus, we see that Louis XIV, king of France, for a while carried the woman, which was also true of several other Catholic countries of that period. This was the sixth head, or mountain, that carried the woman. For references on the history of the Catholic Church during the reign of Louis XIV, see Myers' *Medieval and Modern History*, pp. 496, 497; *Outlines of European History*, by Robinson and Beard, pp. 58-69, 134-136; West's *Early Progress*, pp. 613, 678, 679; Well's *Outline of History*, pp. 824-826; Mosheim's *Ecclesiastical History*, Vol. III, pp. 376, 379; *A Manual of Church History*, by A. H. Newman, Vol. II, pp. 480-488.

### **The Seventh Head**

As we have previously noted, at the time of Louis XIV there was established a despotic monarchical system, which in turn brought about much discontentment and led to the French Revolution. The revolting French people contended, in 1789, for the same principles that the Puritans defended in 1640, and what our American forebears maintained in 1776. Not only were the French people disgusted with political despotism, but also with the decayed feudal hierarchy of the clergy, who had lost all credit and authority with the people whose shepherds they were supposed to have been.

It was during the French Revolution that the Reign of Terror took place; namely, during 1793 and 1794. That was a systematic attempt to secure the success of the Revolution by intimidating and punishing its enemies, and the instrument that was primarily used was the guillotine, a decapitating device.

Not only were the royalty of the earth destroyed but the revolutionists next attacked the royalty of Heaven. On November 7, 1793, the Christian religion was completely abolished in France, and the worship of Reason was instituted in its place. The Sabbath was also abolished, and a ten-day cycle was instituted in the place of the seven-day week. But as usual, when people go to an extreme, there follows a reversal, and so it was with the French Revolution. It may be said here that the abolition of Christianity was not forever, but in 1794 the worship of the supreme Being was acknowledged by the French people, through the influence of Robespierre.

This whirlwind of the Revolution swept into power a man who believed the same destiny which made France the center of the modern world had also appointed him to sit on the throne and carry out the projects of Charles the Frank (Charlemagne), to rule from Paris, as the Caesars had ruled it from Rome. This man was Napoleon Bonaparte. Largely because of his military genius and successes, he was by the French people accepted as their leader.

Practically all forms of religion have their effects upon governments in which they exist. General Bonaparte, although himself a Deist, saw the advantage of gaining the support of the church and Papacy. Consequently he set to work to settle the religious difficulties. The protectorship of the church would give him dignity in the eyes of Christendom, and strengthen his position in France. He worked out a treaty with the Pope, known as the Concordat, in September 1801, which declared that the Roman Catholic religion was that of the great majority of the French citizens and that its rites might be freely observed. He had no inclination to separate Church and State.

On December 2, 1804, General Bonaparte was crowned, not at Rome but in the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris. Pope Pius VII was invited, and consented to grace the occasion. The presence of the Pope was desired because Bonaparte considered himself successor to Charlemagne, and there would be more imperial dignity if the candidate were consecrated to his office by the Roman Pontiff.

The Pope poured upon the head of the kneeling emperor the holy oil, and invested him with the imperial scepter. But to the surprise and chagrin of the Pope, when the ceremony reached the point of the crowning, Napoleon I checked him, and placed it upon his own head by himself.

The pact between the Pope and the emperor did not hold good for a long time. In 1807 he began to bully the Pontiff, and in 1811 made him a close prisoner at Fontainebleau.

Another incident of importance was the termination of the Holy Roman Empire. Austria had carried the title, though only in name, of the Holy Roman Empire ever since the Peace of Westphalia (1648). In 1806 Napoleon refused any longer to recognize the existence of the Holy Roman Empire as it had been at this time. The Emperor Francis II (of Austria) was obliged to surrender his title, and abdicated, being henceforth known as the Emperor of Austria (Francis I). (See Bryce's *Holy Roman Empire*, pp. 352-361, 376-378; Well's *Outline of History*, pp. 896-950; Myers' *Medieval and Modern History*, pp. 577-650; *Outlines of European History*, by Robinson and Beard, pp. 177-312; *Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia*, Vol III, p. 2,072.)

This seventh head (or kingdom) was to continue for a short space of time (Revelation 17:10). Reference here is made to the brief support given to the church by Bonaparte. The last and briefest of the seven kingdoms was this, and there has no mountain - kingdoms - been supporting the Roman church since. Single nations have supported the Papacy ever since, but no empire composed of "peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues" has done so. However, there will be a revived federation of nations carrying the woman when her judgment takes place (Revelation 17:1).

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### **POWERS CLAIMED BY THE POPES**

"Gregory does not stop with asserting the Pope's complete supremacy over the Church. He says that the 'Pope is the only person whose feet are kissed by all princes'; that he may depose emperors and 'absolve subjects from allegiance to an unjust ruler.' No one may annul a decree of the Pope, though the Pope may declare null and void the decree of all other earthly powers; and no one may pass judgment upon his acts." -- OUTLINES OF EUROPEAN HISTORY



## The Revival of the Beast

WE HAVE SEEN how pagan Rome was broken up into ten divisions (ten horns) from about A.D. 376 to 476, and how then the church began to run the affairs of Western Rome to a great extent, until the little horn that sprang up among the ten rooted up three of them, and thereafter the woman sat upon seven successive heads (or upon seven kingdoms) during the papal form of Rome, known as the Holy Roman Empire.

We have also seen that the beast (the federation of nations) went into the bottomless pit, and while the beast was in the bottomless pit, it was considered as being not. However, that was *not* to be the final end of the beast. The beast that carried the Papacy is to ascend again from the bottomless pit, and when it does it will be known as the “eighth” (Revelation 17:8-11). When the beast emerges again, as the eighth head, it will be a reconstructed Holy Roman Empire, controlled by the Roman Catholic Church. The eighth head is the revived head, which is *one of the seven* (verse 11, according to Goodspeed’s translation, and according to Lamsa’s *Modern New Testament* from the Aramaic).

That the woman will again ride the beast is very evident from the fact that she will be sitting upon many waters, or a federation of nations, when her judgment comes upon her through the seven last plagues. She will be sitting as a queen at that time, and a queen naturally sits on a throne, which means that she will be ruling over a kingdom when her destruction comes. It is further indicated in Daniel’s vision that the little horn (the Papacy) will prevail against the saints until the coming of the Saviour, when destruction comes upon it through the judgment which will take away its dominion. The next thing is the establishment of the Kingdom in which the Son of God and the saints will reign. Paul, also, saw the “man of sin” continuing to the coming of the King of kings, when this system (“that Wicked one”) will be destroyed. Both the woman and the beast will be present, and will be destroyed in the Battle of Armageddon.

### The Woman to Ride Again

“And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither; I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters” (Revelation 17:1).

“How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her: for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow. Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord who judgeth her” (Revelation 18:7, 8).

“I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them: until the Ancient of Days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom” (Daniel 7:21, 22).

“But the judgment shall sit, and they shall take away his dominion, to consume and to destroy it unto the end. And the kingdom and the dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the most High, whose kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and all dominions shall serve and obey him” (Daniel 7:26, 27).

“And then shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and shall destroy with the brightness of his coming” (2 Thessalonians 2:8).

“And the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell: and great Babylon came in remembrance before God, to give unto her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of his wrath” (Revelation 16:19).

The time when judgment shall sit and destroy the Papacy, as mentioned in Daniel, is the same as that mentioned in Revelation; namely, that her judgment will come with the seventh plague. And when it does, it will then be that this system will be utterly destroyed. The word *end* as used in Daniel 7:26 has several meanings; such as, extreme limit of anything, death, purpose, design, conclusion, to finish, terminate, to destroy. In checking with Strong’s Concordance and Dictionary, you will find that he gives

for the word *end* the primary meaning of “conclusion,” or “termination.” In other words, when Babylon’s time comes for judgment, she will be utterly or completely destroyed (or terminated). And this is the way it is rendered in the Septuagint Version:

“And the judgment has set, and they will remove his dominion to abolish it, and to destroy it utterly” (verse 26).

The next immediate occurrence, following the taking away of the dominion of the Papacy, is the setting up of the Kingdom of the most High, and that dominion will then belong to the saints (Daniel 7:27). It will be in the days of the ten kings (Revelation 17:12 -- the ten toes), of the revived beast, that the God of heaven will set up His Kingdom (Daniel 2:44).

### **Catholic Ambitions**

Catholics have always maintained that to carry on effectively their supreme, world-wide jurisdiction as Vicars of Christ, the popes ought not to be in subjection to any secular prince. When the temporal power of the popes, consecrated by a tenure of over 1,200 years, ended, the pope was confined to the Vatican, and his jurisdiction was purely ecclesiastical. With the coming of Mussolini the whole situation changed. From the very outset of his regime he determined to settle what was called the Roman Question. The negotiations for both treaty and concordat began in 1926, Barone acting for the Italian Government, and Pacelli for the pope. On February 1, 1929, the treaty and concordat were signed by Cardinal Gasparri and Mussolini. The treaty proper establishes the independence of the Holy See, and makes the Catholic religion the sole religion of the State. Thus, the Roman Question was settled, and the pope became king again of a narrow strip of Italy.

Since then the pope has been able to influence the political, social and economic life in hundreds of countries for both Catholics and non-Catholics. So powerful is the pope’s political influence that 47 nations maintain diplomatic representatives in Vatican City at the present time. The fact that the Vatican is a member of the UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION shows further that it is a political State. It enables the Vatican to produce its own postage stamps, like any other country, which is recognized by all nations, and allows its mails to be carried through the world’s postal systems. If that were a purely ecclesiastical institution, such a situation would be unthinkable.

While the San Francisco Conference of the United Nations was in session (April 1945), there was held at the great Municipal Auditorium a significant special meeting staged by the Roman Catholic Church -- a solemn Pontifical Mass. This auditorium seats a vast audience of 10,000. Every seat was filled. The foremost Catholic radio speaker, Bishop D. G. Hunt of Salt Lake City, delivered the address, and before him were seated several hundred delegates to the conference -- important political leaders from Europe, South America, and other parts of the world.

The speaker assured this world organization that without divine help the United Nations structure is doomed to collapse. This divine help was offered through the Roman Catholic Church. That is, if the United Nations is building a house, and leaving God out of it, “They labor in vain that build it.” When they refer to God, the Catholic meaning is, of course, that whenever God is placed over the nations that their Church is placed as God over the nations. There were those representative nations at San Francisco trying to build a great world structure without God, that is, without the Catholic Church. This was the Catholic bid to revive the old Holy Roman Empire. And the prophecy says that they will succeed.

Soon after the San Francisco Conference, there sprang up in Europe a new political party -- the Christian Socialist Movement. The cry was heard from many quarters that Protestants, Catholics, and the Democracies must stick together in order to save themselves from the menace of Communism. It has checked the Communist advance in Europe, and the elections for the most part have been going against the Communists. This communistic avalanche which has been threatening the world, has provided the unifying opposition which already has welded together many elements throughout Europe. As every informed person knows, an effort has been made for a number of years to form a United States of Europe. And every indication now is that this will happen.

## **A United states of Europe**

That there would be a United States of Europe, or another federation of nations formed in Europe, has been known for a long time because it has been prophesied (Revelation 17:8-18); but just how this was to be brought about may not have been generally known and may still be a riddle to many, but now that the Common Market has been formed in Europe it is a good sign of how this may develop.

After the close of World War II, the shattered nations of Europe began to cast about for ways to rebuild and to integrate their economics without permitting the old bitter rivalries to crop up again. One of the first steps that was undertaken was when, in 1952, six European nations joined together in a European Coal and Steel Community, which was a triumph for the French statesman Jean Monnet, who has been (or is) an advocate of a United States of Europe. These six nations are West Germany, France, Italy, Holland, Belgium, and Luxemburg.

In 1957 the heads of these six European nations met in Rome to sign the treaty that created the European Economic Community. As all know, their aim was to create a tight economic union to protect themselves against the outside world by a high tariff -- an economic bloc. But their long-range goals are ultimate political unity. This would, no doubt, include a common school system for all of Europe, a common system of currency, a common social system, a common Court of Justice, and eventually one religion. Nationalism is waning and imperialism is increasing.

Nate White, business and financial editor for *The Christian Science Monitor*, referring to these developments, observed: "What has been forged under the Treaty of Rome in the Common Market is a tightly knit, tightly centralized, tightly directed, tightly controlled new bureaucracy, largely subject to France and Belgium, which is obviously attempting to restore the economic structure of the Holy Roman Empire." He further indicated that while Dr. Walter Hallestein, president of the Market, "has achieved in a limited sense his objective of a 'new empire,' he must still get his single parliament, his single electorate, his single currency." In other words, a program to improve the social and economic condition of Europe turns out to be a political maneuver to revive the old Holy Roman Empire with all it means. (See *Christian Heritage*, p. 19, October, 1961.)

## **A Catholic Super State**

Even the usually cautious Catholic Church now considers the Common Market providential. Cardinal Cicognani, Papal Secretary of State, urged Catholics to take the lead in creating a united Europe. He recalled that Pius XII was advocating this while still alive. "In a letter to 'The English Churchman' (August 10, 1962), William G. Anthony quotes from a Roman dispatch quoted in the news magazine 'Topic' (March 24): 'Not since the end of the Roman Empire has the Holy See been offered a Catholic rallying point like the Common Market'" (*Christian Heritage*, April, 1963).

One of the amazing new worldwide influences in present world affairs has been that simple, friendly, diplomatic man, Pope John XXIII of Rome. What he accomplished from 1958 to 1963 has moved Roman Catholics once more into the mainstream of world history. While he was Pope, especially during the latter portion of his office, he used his immense authority to bring about a movement toward unity, not only among Catholics but non-Catholics included. One culmination of events in recent times has been the Ecumenical Council; and the other, the encyclical, *Pacem in Terris*, which he addressed to everybody in the world. In his optimism he said, "The future is ours."

A description of this revived Holy Roman Empire is given in Revelation 17:11-13. It is called the "beast," or the eighth head, and is one of the seven. In due time, ten horns (ten modern nations) will give their power to the beast for an hour.

That the original ten horns on the fourth beast of Daniel 7 did not give their power and strength to the beast as the eighth head is a fact. By the time the wounded head was healed, three of the original ten had been plucked up, and only seven were left. The eighth head did not then exist. Furthermore, it is the eighth head, termed the beast, which will be present at the Battle of Armageddon, and will fight against the Messiah at His second coming (verse 14). This is yet future, not past. However, it will last only for a short time (verse 12).

Inasmuch as the little horn (or Papacy) came up after the ten horns had appeared on the fourth beast (Daniel 7:24), it is clear that the ten horns of the fourth beast existed before the Papacy ever appeared as a ruling power over the nations of the earth. The ten horns or kings of Revelation 17, however, have no existence until the woman has nearly run her course, or has been seated upon all the seven papal heads, and they (the ten horns) appear just in time to give their power to the beast, and to destroy the woman with fire during the Battle of Armageddon, or during the seventh plague (Revelation 17:15-17; 16:19; 18:8). The ten horns of Daniel 7 came into existence as a result of the breaking up of the Roman Empire; whereas the ten horns of Revelation 17 do not appear until after the woman has been seated upon all seven papal heads, and is also seated upon the revived, or eighth, head (Revelation 17:1, 8, 11).

## **The Image of the Beast**

*“And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed. And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six.” -- Revelation 13:11-18*

AN IMAGE TO THE BEAST was to be formed by them that dwell on the earth, the making of which was prompted by the two-horned beast. This revived beast, to which an image was to be made, has reference to the eighth head, which is a federation of nations (Revelation 17:11, 15). If the beast was a federation of nations, or a civil government, likewise will the image be a federation of nations, or a civil government. It will not be an image of the Roman church which sits on the beast. The kingdoms upon which the church sat in the past were largely located in Europe, and those nations were called the Holy Roman Empire.

It therefore follows that the image of the beast must also be composed of a league of nations, but outside of Europe. The image cannot be the same thing as its counterpart.

As previously mentioned, there is a movement afoot to unite Central and Western Europe into one large camp. This revival of the old league or federation of nations, the Holy Roman Empire, must take place before we can expect to see its image perfected anywhere else. And when this organic union, patterned after the revived Holy Roman Empire, takes place it will be the persecuting image of the beast.

Present world events reveal that the image of the beast is developing practically as rapidly as the beast itself, after which it is modeled. The beast is seemingly being re-established in Europe, and the image of the same is apparently being formed in the Americas. Just as a European Pact (perhaps a United States of Europe) may compose the revived beast, so an American Pact (perhaps a Pan-American Union) could be formed and patterned after the Holy Roman Empire, and thus compose the image. Current events in the political and religious world indicate the certainty of this conclusion.

## The Mark of the Beast

It seems that “boycotting” is nothing new. It was invented by Pope Alexander III, in the third Council of the Lateran, Chapter 27, in the year 1179. The canon or law reads: “We decree that all heretics, and those that defend them, and those even who receive them, shall lie under anathema, for admitting such into their houses, or allowing them to subsist on their lands, or giving them any assistance, or even transacting any business as buying or selling with them .... Moreover we command all the faithful to make war with great hardihood against such pests of society, and to protect all Christian people against them; and we grant to such remission of all their sins, for doing so. Moreover, we will that all property, goods, and chattels of heretics and of their defenders and receivers, be confiscated; and that they themselves shall be seized and sold as slaves” (*The Converted Catholic Magazine*, p. 22, June, 1955).

Since many of the prophecies have a dual application and fulfillment, we should not be surprised at all to find that the real intent and fulfillment of the mark of the beast is yet future. It will be enforced shortly before the Battle of Armageddon will convene (Revelation 13:11-18; 12:17), for the first of the plagues will be poured out upon the worshipers of the image, and upon those who have his mark (Revelation 16:1, 2).

## The Plagues

“And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb: and the smoke of their torment ascendeth up forever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name” (Revelation 14:9-11).

Since the worshipers of the beast and his image are the ones to receive the seven last plagues, it follows that the ones who are to receive the seven last plagues are also the ones who live just prior and on up to the time of the pouring out of God’s wrath. The folks who may have worshiped the beast during the Dark Ages are not alive today, and we do not expect to see them raised from their graves until after the Millennial Age; therefore they could not be the recipients of the Seven Last Plagues. The plagues will be poured out just before the end of this age and before the Millennium.

When the wrath of God (i.e. the plagues) will be poured out without mixture upon the worshipers of the beast and his image, the overcomers who will have been in conflict with the beast will be in a place of separation, as it were on a sea of glass (Revelation 15:1-3).

That the plagues are still future is further seen from the fact that during the time of the pouring out of God’s wrath, there will be no mediatorial work, or salvation of sinners, going on in the temple (Revelation 10:7; 15:5-8; 16:11). There has been no time since the Cross to the present when probation has been closed. But there is a time coming when no man will be able to enter the temple, till the seven plagues are fulfilled. This evidently will endure for a year’s time, for if the pattern in prophecy of a day for a year reckoning holds true in this case, then the time of the pouring out of the plagues will last for one year (Revelation 18:8).

If part of the plagues are now in the past, then sinners and saints alike have been recipients of the same. Whatever plagues, troubles, distresses or calamities have befallen this world in past centuries, have also affected God’s people with the rest of the world, but there will definitely be a difference when the seven last plagues will be poured out. The saints will then be hidden away from that which befalls the wicked (Revelation 15:1-3; Zephaniah 2:1-3; Isaiah 26:20, 21). Furthermore, the plagues could not have covered a period of many centuries, because no single individual person has lived long enough to have been partaker of the plagues that some suppose have already fallen. You will notice that the ones who are to be partakers of the fifth plague will then still be suffering from the sores that came upon them during the first plague (Revelation 16:2, 10, 11). This mistake of classifying the seven seals, the seven trumpets, and the seven last plagues all in the same time periods -- that is, the first seal, the first trumpet,

and the first plague occurring contemporaneously -- is not justifiable. It is not until after the seventh seal is opened that the seven trumpets will begin to sound (Revelation 8:1, 6). And in turn, it is not until after the seventh trumpet begins to sound that the plagues will be poured out in the form of God's wrath (Revelation 11:15, 18). The seventh seal comprises the seven trumpets (or else we have nothing going on during that period of time); and the seventh trumpet comprises the seven last plagues. Bible students in general understand that we are now living in the time of the sixth seal.

The gathering of the nations to "the battle of that great day of God Almighty," commonly called the Battle of Armageddon, will take place under the sixth plague (Revelation 16:12-16), and the actual battle itself will take place under the seventh plague. It is then that the Saviour will make His appearance on earth (Zechariah 14). The Most High will use the beast and the ten kings to destroy the woman, and since her destruction takes place under the seventh plague (Revelation 16:17-19), it follows that the beast will also be destroyed during the seventh plague after it has been used to destroy the corrupt woman (Revelation 17:16; 19:19, 20).

### **A Warning Message**

The third angel's message is a warning against worshiping the beast and his image, or receiving the Mark of his name (Revelation 14:9-11). That this warning message was not proclaimed during the Dark Ages is evident from the fact that the three angels' messages follow in succession; that is, the first was proclaimed in the days of the apostles and has continued ever since; the second angel's message commenced with the Protestant Reformation which caused the fall of "Babylon" from its former power and prestige, and it has continued ever since; while the third angel's message follows sometime this side of the second.

The "Mark of the beast" evidently has direct bearing on the matter of engaging in business, holding a job, or earning a livelihood. It involves a point of obedience, i.e., whether we will obey God's Commandments, or obey man's rule. Those who refuse the mark of the beast are they who "... keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus" (Revelation 14:12). And it will be this class of people -- those who refuse the Mark of the Beast -- the very end-time (or remnant) saints, against whom Satan will direct his fury. "And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant [last generation] of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ" (Revelation 12:17).

The greatest period of martyrdom in the past was during the Middle Ages, termed in the book of Revelation as under the fifth seal (Revelation 6:9-11). Millions of people suffered under the hands of Romanism. But that was not to be the end of all martyrdom. "... And it was said unto them, that they should rest yet a little season, until their fellowservants also and their brethren, that should be killed as they were, should be fulfilled" (Revelation 6:11).

Not only did Roman Catholics persecute non-Catholics during the Dark Ages, but after the Protestants became numerous and strong, some of them also, in some instances, persecuted Roman Catholics and even Protestants not of their confession. In his remarks about the Spanish Inquisition, Willis Mason West (in *Early Progress*, 1920, p. 615) wrote: "Persecution of unbelievers was characteristic of the Age. It disgraced every sect, Protestant as well as Catholic. But no Protestant land possessed a device so fiendishly calculated to accomplish its purpose as the Inquisition."

## **Modern Persecutions**

TRIBULATIONS and persecutions have been experienced by the saints throughout earth's history, beginning with Abel. Many of the prophets of old were slain by the hands of their own countrymen (Luke 11:47-51). The first wave of persecution against the Apostolic Church was carried on by unbelieving Jews, and later by the Pagans. Even the Jews themselves, about A. D. 70, suffered indescribable tribulations at the hands of the Romans, when the temple and the city of Jerusalem were

destroyed. Ever since then, these scattered (and now, in part, regathered) people have gone through many periods of persecution, so that at times it appeared that they would be completely exterminated.

Of the ten major Pagan persecutions against the early Christians, beginning with Nero in A. D. 64 and terminating with Diocletian in A. D. 313, we have treated in a previous article. And as will be recalled, the Papal persecutions and martyrdoms against the true saints lasted for about 1,260 years. There is nothing in the Scriptures that indicates that persecutions or tribulations would cease for the saints thereafter. Rather, there are indications that tribulations would continue to the end of time. See Matthew 24:21-31; Revelation 3:10, 11; 6:9-11; 12:17; 13:11-18; 15:1-3; Daniel 7:21, 22, 26, 27.

### **Twentieth Century Evidences**

That persecutions and tribulations have taken place against some of God's children, even in the twentieth century, is a well-known fact. No one could convince the true Christians who endured the Bolshevistic Revolution, and other repressive movements in Russia since, that they did not have tribulation. In Spain evangelical believers have suffered many years for their faith. It would be useless to try to convince the Christians who are still alive in Columbia, South America, that there was no persecution when probably several hundred non-Catholics have been martyred since 1948, according to a number of accounts that have been printed.

It is said that Rome never changes. As the church (or the woman) rode the beast in the past, and caused the beast (the civil government) to execute punishment upon heretics, so it will do again whenever it has that power. It is not widely known, yet occurrences of this have happened. The newspapers and radios did not broadcast these atrocities very freely. But at last we have the story, documented with references and photographs, of the massacre of the Jews and the Orthodox Serbs from 1941 to 1942 and in the years that followed. This was done by the Roman Catholic Croats, with the cooperation of the clergy. M. Henri Laurierre, the author of *Assassins au Nom de Dieu*, was himself a Catholic.

### **Over 100,000 Serbs Slain**

After Pavelitch became the puppet head of the new Independent State of Croatia, in about 1941, a war on all Serbs and Jews began. Six weeks after the invasion, Pavelitch went to Rome where Pius XII received him and his followers. Even shortly before this visit to Rome, hundreds of Ustashi encircled five villages in the Bjelovar district, forced 250 peasants with priest and school teacher to dig their own graves, and then buried them alive. At Gracac a Serb physician was cut up alive with knives. At Otocac, the Orthodox priest and his young son were chopped to pieces after digging their own graves. A Serb member of Parliament was crucified, and then left dying in his burning house.

Then followed wholesale massacres. More than a hundred thousand Serbian men, women, and children were butchered in those days in their homes, in fields, in prisons, in schools, and even in Orthodox churches. In the church at Glina, ten thousand Serbs were hacked to pieces.

Dr. Budak, Minister of Education and Worship, said, "We will kill a third of the Serbs, deport another third, force the rest to conform to the Catholic religion."

Dr. Novak, Croat university professor, reported that Franciscan monks were the eager collaborators in these cruelties. "The church became the advance guard of Ustashi expeditions for rooting out the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina, both Serb and Moslem."

From his enormous file, M. Laurierre makes selections, as this, for one instance: Ante Klaritch, Franciscan monk, said in a sermon, July 1941:

"You are old women and ought to don petticoats since you have not killed a single Serb. If you haven't firearms, use hatchets, sickles, anything. When you meet a Serb, cut his throat."

And so the report goes on, giving details of massacres. In some places hundreds were dispatched in gruesome manners, while in other places they ran into the thousands. It is estimated that in all about 500,000 lost their lives. For more details see the *Converted Catholic Magazine*, September 1954. See also *Assassins au Nom de Dieu*.

## **Spain and Italy Oppressed**

As for Spain, Protestants have generally not been tolerated. Although Spain has a constitution that guarantees religious freedom, yet in actual practice non-Catholics have been much hindered, and even persecuted. It is purported that more than 98% of the population in Spain is Roman Catholic. Persecution and molestation of Protestants has continued unabated in all parts of Spain, and they have been obstructed in their evangelical efforts at every step. There have been, however, rumors that recently there is some toleration. There is complete union of Church and State.

Americans have been made to believe that there is religious freedom in Italy. But the reports that have come from evangelicals in Italy during the past few years, indicate that American Protestants have been persecuted for preaching the gospel, and police have often made life miserable for the missionaries. Italian citizens, members of these evangelical churches or groups, were menaced, abused, and threatened with the loss of their jobs unless they quit attending evangelical meetings. See the *Converted Catholic Magazine*, March 1955, and October 1955.

## **False Cries for Peace**

While Pope Pius XII from the “privileged sanctuary” of the Vatican prayed for peace, and urgently called the free world to aid the persecuted Catholics behind the Iron Curtain, the Church that boasts that she never changes has, with modern intolerance and medieval tactics, murdered many Protestants of Columbia in recent years. The propaganda used against Protestants was that they were Communists, and the priests labeled all Protestant books, including the Bible, as Communistic literature.

Colombia is no longer safe for Protestants. Rome’s edicts supercede the guarantees of religious liberty provided in Colombia’s constitution. Discriminatory actions and interruptions of divine worship have taken place, false arrests and even kidnappings have occurred, and forcible expulsions from church and country have been taking place.

## **Catholic Striking Power**

Several years ago Cardinal Samuel Stritch of Chicago was quoted internationally by the press as saying, “U. S. no longer Protestant.” He also said: “There is not only material but also spiritual progress in the United States. The Catholic Church is forging ahead, growing day by day and becoming stronger among the American people. In Chicago there are 1,500,000 Roman Catholics. It no longer can be said that the United States is a Protestant country” (*Chicago Daily News*, July 28, 1955).

*The Boston Herald* of December 14, 1930, reported an address of the Jesuit Priest, Francis Talbot, in which he declared: “For 100 years Protestantism has been the strongest element in the United States, and now this non-Catholic culture is vanishing and disappearing. Instead of God-fearing people, we have those on the horizon who have no belief in God, a neo-pagan culture.

“There is an opportunity for us to effect a turn in the right direction. Why don’t we Catholics arouse a tidal wave that will bring Catholic culture fairly and squarely into these United States? Why don’t we drive in between the two, (Protestantism and Neo-Paganism) and make these United States Catholic, Catholic in legislation, Catholic in civilization and morals, and prepare that reign of Christ with justice and charity?

“We have come to the point where we Catholics are the greatest in number of all religious bodies in the country; we are growing in wealth and power. Now is the acceptable time for us to attempt to accomplish much. Now is the time for our various organizations to strike and to strike hard, in order to put the Catholic idea before our people.’

“Thirty years later this Jesuit-inspired strategy ‘to strike and strike hard’ is evident at every level of life in the United States. An aroused Protestantism lifts its voice against these Roman Catholic encroachments as being in flagrant violation of our cherished principle for the separation of Church and State. There can be no greater hypocrisy than that which out of one side of the mouth argues no



religious test dare be applied to any candidate for public office while from the other side of the same mouth loudly vows to make America Catholic” (*Christian Heritage*, October 1960).

### **Deadly Weapons Used**

Communism and Roman Catholicism are among the deadliest enemies of our American way of life. The weapons to destroy our liberties are at their hands. Communistic and atheistic propaganda have become prevalent in many of our educational institutions, and have even infiltrated some of our churches, it is said. But the Vatican and the Catholic hierarchy counter with a propaganda machine that has been unequalled. Political influence, spiritual propositions, dominion over the press, radio, and television, partial control of our educational system, and access to the most vital agencies of the United States government, are all instruments or elements by which they try to conquer America. Catholic Action, the Knights of Columbus, and the Society of Jesus have already partially fulfilled dreams and ambitions to “Make America Catholic.”

### **Will Russia Rule the World?**

“And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon [Communistic nations], and out of the mouth of the beast [a federation of European nations], and out of the mouth of the false prophet [Arab and Mohammedan nations]. For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty” (Revelation 16:13, 14).

Russia, with all her bands, will be present at the great conflict in Israel, and there will be other groups of nations assembled, including Judah, to oppose Russia (Ezekiel 38:1-13; Zechariah 14:14; Revelation 11:18; 16:12-16). This shows that there will be no single nation or group of nations in control of the entire world. If everything were under one head, there would be no Armageddon. The Scriptures nowhere teach that there will be another world kingdom in this age, but the Word does teach the establishment of a universal Kingdom of Glory, the fifth world empire, which follows the fourth (Rome), at the second coming of the Messiah (Daniel 2:44, 45; 7:13, 14).

“And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be” (Revelation 22:12).