

The Way It Looks from Here

by John Kiesz

Since World War II (1938-1945), international tensions, revolutions, terrorism, hijackings, bombings, assassinations, moral degeneration, and worldwide economic crises have been facts of our times.

Some of the troubled countries include Vietnam, Cambodia, Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Ethiopia, Lebanon, Ireland, Panama, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Israel and the Arabs, Russia and China.

These serious circumstances were to occur near the end of the present age—called the “Great day of the LORD.”

The great day of the LORD is near, it is near, and hasteth greatly, . . . the mighty man shall cry there bitterly. [See also Isaiah 33:7.] That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, . . . A day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers. And I will bring distress upon men, and they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the LORD (Zephaniah 1:14-17).

And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring. Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory (Luke 21:25-27).

Some time after World War II ended, the Common Market was created in Europe. The Treaty of Rome was signed March 25, 1957. The initial goal of the European Economic Community (EEC) was to create a tight economic block. But the long-range goals were ultimate political unity, including a common Court of Justice, a common social system, a common school system, a common system of currency for all of Europe, and eventually, one form of religion.

If this goal turns out to be a reality, it will

be a revival of the old Holy Roman Empire which existed in Central Europe for 1,260 years—A.D. 554 to A.D. 1814. A scriptural description of this revived Holy Roman Empire is given in Revelation 17:11-18. It is also called the “beast” (Revelation 13:16-18; 14:9-11; 16:13; 17:8, 11, 16).

As far back as 1946, in a speech at Zurich, Switzerland, Winston Churchill said: “We must build a kind of United States of Europe.” German Chancellor Konrad Adenauer, Italian Prime Minister Alcide de Gasperi, and French Prime Minister Robert Schuman, are said to have envisioned some form of a restored “Holy Roman Empire.” Charles de Gaulle, before his death, dreamed of a reunited Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals. The Pope, during the summer of 1987, also called for a “united Europe” from the Atlantic to the Urals.

Pope John Paul II is well versed in geopolitical events. He is a world traveler, preaches peace, is revered and admired not only by nearly a billion Catholics, but is also respected by many other religious affiliations. So powerful is the Pope's political influence that 47 nations maintain diplomatic representatives in Vatican City. He likely will have an important role to play in the reunification of Europe.

Early in December 1989, Mikhail Gorbachev had a historical meeting with the Pope shortly before the Malta summit. He called the Pope “the Holy Father,” and further said: “We are dealing with the highest religious authority of the world, who is of Slavic origin as well.” The Kremlin and the Holy See are to establish official bilateral relations as a first step toward diplomatic ties. Freedom of religion for all Russian citizens is promised to come, and the Ukrainian Catholic Church is to be legalized when the Soviet Parliament approves a freedom of



conscience bill. The Pope is also invited to visit the U.S.S.R.

Shortly before my wife and I flew to the Near East and to Europe in 1971, Sister Volz of St. Louis, Missouri, handed us this published information which took place in Geneva, Switzerland:

Plans are worked out to dissolve the UNO to make a way for a "World Tribunal" which will seize all possessions, and all savings and bank deposits. Every man, every woman, and every child will receive a certain amount of money and a number. . . . Everyone with a number will be employed either in the administrative, the commerce, the industrial, or the agricultural branch.

This project and this plan provides a total unification of Church and State, and also provides a single form of worship. The appointed day for all people and all nations will be Sunday, and the number received by the people would promise them the right to buy and sell.

*At the end of that statement a Christian rose and asked the speaker, "What happens to the minorities who will not accept this plan?" He was answered, "Their numbers will be cancelled with a black line, and they will be deprived of the right to buy or sell and thus will be forced to destruction! (From the French magazine, *Foi et Rio*.)*

Current Events in Eastern Europe

With the present turmoils (1989-1990) in Eastern Europe, many ask: What is it all coming to? Will Germany be united? Will all of Europe unite? What is going to happen with NATO? And what with the Warsaw Pact? What about the removal of missiles from European soil? Will the United States troops come home? Will we witness conflicts of severe maneuverings for some time? What will be the out-



come? What roles, if any, will Bush, Gorbachev, and John Paul play in shaping a new Europe?

Whatever develops, no one except the Eternal knows for sure the shape of things to come. For this knowledge we have to go to the prophetic Scriptures. The books of Daniel and Revelation have the answers in general explications. Daniel 7:1-28 and Revelation 13:1-3 give us a description of the ancient Roman Empire which ruled over 500 years, or until it was divided into ten parts by A.D. 476. The Papacy developed after that (Daniel 7:25; Revelation 13:3-8; 17:1-8). Church and State were fully united, and the Holy Roman Empire ruled for 1,260 years, when it fell into the bottomless pit under Napoleon Bonaparte.

*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, *Temporal Power*, p. 16).*

The beast that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition; and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the beast that was, and is not, and yet is (Revelation 17:8).

When this beast is resurrected, it will be called the eighth head, and is one of the seven previous heads. The ten horns (kings—comparable to the ten toes on the metallic image—Daniel 2:41-45) shall give their power to the beast (to the revived Holy Roman Empire), which will be directed by the head of the Catholic Church until all of this combination will be destroyed by the Seven Last Plagues.

The metallic image, seen in a dream by Nebuchadnezzar and interpreted by Daniel, depicts the longest prophetic history concerning the nations of the earth—from the Babylonian Empire to the end of Roman influence, and to the establishment of the Kingdom of

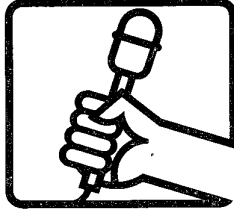
Glory (Daniel 2:31-44).

The two iron legs of Nebuchadnezzar's image, with feet and toes mixed with iron and clay, represent Eastern and Western Rome, comparable today with Eastern and Western Europe. Each foot has five toes, representing five Eastern and five Western kings. If this reasoning is correct, five of the Eastern and five of the Western European nations will give their power and influence to the revived Holy Roman Empire. If the Pope of Rome should happen to be the head of this conglomeration, it will be headquartered in the city of Rome—the same place where it was for 1,260 years previously.

Shortly after Germany was ripped apart in 1945, I predicted it would be reunited, and that Eastern and Western Europe would combine under one head. I understood this from Daniel 2:31-44 and Revelation chapters 13 and 17. Several other ministers at that time and since then have expressed these same views. In checking with what some of our brethren predicted after the 1844 time-setting disappointment, they stressed that the Holy Roman Empire would be revived shortly before our Lord's return.

For more than forty years I have looked for signs of a United States of Europe (or its equivalent) to come into being. Some prophecies seem to delay fulfillment beyond our expectations. The favorable time has arrived. We see the literal fulfillment before our eyes, this very moment, by what is taking place in Eastern Europe and the rest of the world.

What you have read in this writing "Is the Way It Looks From Here."



Here's What's Happening!

- April 8, 1990—After sundown, Lord's Supper Service.
April 14, 1990—Spring Vale Academy Emphasis Sabbath.
April 12-15, 1990—Women's Agency Biennial Worker's Conference, Springfield, Oregon. Phone: (503) 998-6600 for details.
April 16, 1990—*Harvest Field Messenger* news due.
April 20-22, 1990—Northeastern District Women's Retreat.
Phone: (517) 799-2478 for information.
April 27-29, 1990—Southeastern District Women's Retreat, Oak Grove (near Gadsden), Alabama. Contact Ethel Lawson, (615) 899-0869.
- June 10-16, 1990—Dover Campmeeting, Dover, Oklahoma.
June 11-22, 1990—Summer Session of Summit School of Theology.
- July 2-7, 1990—West Coast District Family Conference, Anaheim, California.
July 3-7, 1990—Central District Bible Conference, Marina Inn, South Sioux City, Nebraska.
July 3-7, 1990—Southeastern District Bible Conference, Collegedale, Tennessee.
July 11-14, 1990—Southwestern District Family Camp, Dallas, Texas.
July 17-21, 1990—Northeastern District Bible Conference.
July 22-29, 1990—Central District Youth Camp, Guthrie Center, Iowa. Contact Lynn Taylor, P.O. Box 95, Stanberry, Missouri, (816) 783-2313, for details.
July 22-29, 1990—Science Camp at Sis-Q-Meadows, Oregon (8-12 years old).
July 29-August 5—Science Camp at Sis-Q-Meadows, Oregon (13-18 years old).
July 29-August 3, 1990—Southwestern District Youth Camp, Rock Haven Bible Camp near Harrison, Arkansas.
July 29-August 5, 1990—Northeastern District Youth Camp at Chief Noonday Outdoor Center near Hastings, Michigan. Phone: (517) 799-2478 for more information.
- August 21-26, 1990—Seniors' Retreat, Sis-Q-Meadows, Oregon.
- September 17-22, 1990—1990 session of the North American Ministerial Council, Lansing, Michigan. All licensed or credentialed ministers should attend.
- December 23-26, 1990—Women's Agency Cultural Exchange, Kingston, Jamaica. Contact Emogene Coulter, 6104 Bay Hill Dr., Arlington, Texas 76018 for information.

In the March-April 1990 'The Harvest Field Messenger', John Kiesz stated that "In checking with what some of our brethren predicted after the 1844 time-setting disappointment, they stressed that the Holy Roman Empire would be revived shortly before our Lord's return" (p.5)

If anyone has further information about this, I would be most interested in viewing it.

All I have is a letter from, if I recall correctly, John Kiesz (c1990), wherein he wrote to me:

Post Script:

In reference to what some of our Brethren predicted after the great time-setting disappointment of 1844, they were looking for the fulfillment of the image of the Beast, the healing of the wounded Beast, the Mark of the Beast, his number of his name, and the great persecution. – The Hope of Israel, Vol. 1, No. 13, 1864 issue, predecessor of The Bible Advocate.

Napoleon Bonaparte's vast Empire over which he reigned from 1804 to 1815, was the Beast that went into the bottomless pit (Revelation 17:8). – The Hope of Israel, Vol. III, No. 19, February 23, 1869.

When I was still at school, sometime in the mid-1970s, I came across a book in the local library titled something like 'The Rider on the White Horse' or similar. Written in the early 1800s by a Protestant, it stated that Napoleon was the Beast.

Should anyone come across it, do let me know.