

PROPHECY CLASSICS

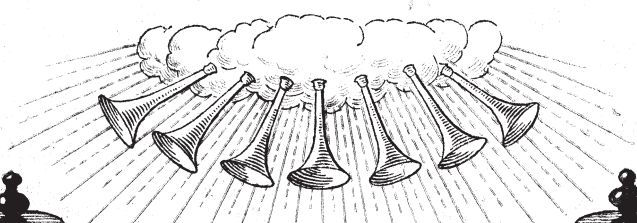
# THE BOOK OF REVELATION



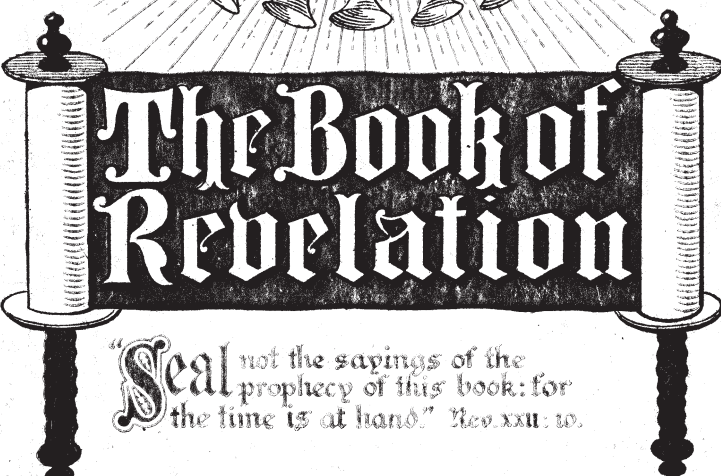
PART TWO

A. J. FERRIS





# The Book of Revelation



*Seal not the sayings of the  
prophecy of this book: for  
the time is at hand." Rev. xxii: 10.*

## PART II.

A simple explanation of Chapters XII. to XXII.  
which survey (1) the History of the Roman  
Empire, Pagan and Papal, from 63 B.C. to the  
1917 generation, and (2) the coming Millennium.

—BY—

A. J. FERRIS, B.A., Diploma of Education  
(University of New Zealand)

96 Pages, 30 Illustrations.

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## PREFACE TO SECOND EDITION.

The evangelical churches hold either of two views of Revelation:—(1) That its prophecies from **Rev. 4** onwards still await fulfilment—and so this is called the “*futurist*” interpretation. Or, (2) that Revelation has been progressively fulfilled in the history of Europe, Pagan and Papal, whence it is known as the “*historical*” interpretation. The “*futurist*” view was put forward by the Jesuit Ribera in 1585 in an endeavour to draw attention away from the “*historical*” interpretation which caused the Reformation by identifying the Papacy as the anti-christ and the Church of Rome as the “*Babylon*” of Revelation. The “*futurist*” suggestion was not accepted by the Protestant churches until it was seized by the Plymouth Brethren from 1830 onwards and propagated widely throughout the evangelical churches. The “*historical*” view has on the other hand always been held by the martyr church, and the following list of names of some of the eminent servants of God who held this view surely indicates which is correct, the Roman-Jesuit view or the Protestant historical view:—

<i>Wycliffe,</i>	<i>Bishop J. C. Ryle,</i>
<i>Luther,</i>	<i>Principal R. S. Candlish,</i>
<i>Calvin,</i>	<i>Bishop Barnes, U.S.A.,</i>
<i>Latimer,</i>	<i>Bishop Wordsworth,</i>
<i>Knox,</i>	<i>Prof. Birks (Cambridge),</i>
<i>Sir Isaac Newton,</i>	<i>Finney,</i>
<i>John Foxe,</i>	<i>Moody,</i>
<i>Bishop Newton,</i>	<i>Dr. H. G. Guinness,</i>
<i>Bunyan,</i>	<i>Spurgeon,</i>
<i>John Wesley,</i>	<i>Dr. F. B. Meyer,</i>
<i>Dr. Hudson Taylor,</i>	<i>Dinsdale Young.</i>

It is the “*historical*” view which is given in the following pages.

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## PART II.

—BY—

**A. J. FERRIS, B.A.**

*(Diploma of Education, New Zealand University)*

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**96 pages.    ::    30 illustrations.**  
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## **CONTENTS.**

### **REVELATION 12.**

The first advent of Christ in relation to Israel and the Pagan Roman Empire. The fall of Rome: the Gothic flood, and the escape of Israel into Britain (the appointed place).

### **REVELATION 13.**

The rise into power of the Papacy and the ten Latin nations of Europe. Papal persecution of the witnessing church. The priesthood and Councils of the Church of Rome. The mark of Latin.

### **REVELATION 17.**

The Church of Rome foretold in detail, also the transition from Imperial Rome to Papal Europe. Latin Europe to support the Church of Rome for 1260 years, then to destroy her. Britain not one of the ten Latin kingdoms, but latter-day Israel.

### **REVELATION 14.**

Five special visions to encourage the persecuted martyr church.

### **REVELATION 15.**

Christian Israel to be victorious over Papal Europe by the providence of God—fulfilled in the rise of Britain and the U.S.A.

### **REVELATION 16.**

The seven vials of God's judgment on the Gentile nations at the end of the times of the Gentiles, 1780 to the 1917 generation.

### **REVELATION 18.**

The complete destruction of the Church of Rome described.

### **REVELATION 19.**

The second advent of Christ, and the judgment of the nations.

### **REVELATION 20.**

Satan bound a thousand years. The first resurrection and the millennium. The last rebellion, general resurrection and judgment.

### **REVELATION 21 and 22.**

Post-millennial conditions, Paradise completely restored.

## REVELATION 12.

As we noted in Part 1, **Rev. 11** leads right up to the second advent. Yet there are eleven more chapters of prophecy recorded by John. As to how Revelation came to consist of two such series of prophecies, we saw in **Rev. 5-1** that the original scroll containing the prophecies was "*written within and without.*" When Christ had broken the seventh seal and translated to John the remaining prophecies on the inside of the scroll, his record reached **Rev. 11**. There is no doubt that then Christ turned the scroll over and translated the prophecies written on the outside which John records in the other eleven chapters of Revelation. When we examine the latter, we find that they refer not so much to the Christian church as in Part 1, but rather to the career of the Roman Empire, Pagan and Papal. Evidently the wisdom of God thought it better to keep the two series of prophecies separate; at the same time there are enough cross-references to show that they refer mainly to the same Christian dispensation.

### THE WOMAN AND THE DRAGON. **Rev. 12-1 to 5.**

1. "And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars:
  2. And she being with child cried, and pained to be delivered.
  3. And there appeared another wonder in heaven ... a great red dragon, having seven heads and ten horns, and seven crowns upon his heads.
  4. And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the
- The first vision of the new series was a complete dramatisation in which two "*wonders*" or symbols appeared in the "*heaven*" or sky before John—a "*woman*" travailing in birth, and a ten-horned "*dragon*" who sought to devour her child as soon as it was born. We ask what peoples were represented by those two characters?
- Firstly, as to the woman, many times in the O.T., the prophets speak metaphorically of ISRAEL as a "*woman*"

woman . . . for to devour her child as soon as it was born. and Revelation repeatedly uses the same O.T. symbols.

5. And she brought forth a man child, who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to His throne.” Secondly, her apparel identifies her as representing twelve-tribed Israel—“*clothed with the SUN, and the MOON under her feet, and upon her head a crown of TWELVE STARS.*” Our thoughts go back to the days of the origin of Israel, and Joseph’s dream in which as he tells “*the SUN and the MOON and the ELEVEN STARS made obeisance to me.*” (**Gen. 37-9**). On hearing of this dream, Jacob his father gives us the interpretation in his exclamation in the next verse, “*Shall I (the sun) and thy mother (the moon) and thy brethren (the eleven stars) come to bow down ourselves to thee?*” Thus the sons of Jacob who were the progenitors of the twelve tribes of Israel were there symbolised by STARS. Hence in John’s vision in **Rev. 12** the woman’s apparel denotes that she symbolises the nation of Israel descended physically from the twelve sons and their parents.

The third point which identifies the woman is that John records that “*she brought forth a man-child who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron: and her child was caught up unto God, and to his throne.*” The man-child without question represents the Son of God, to whom God made the above kingly promise in **Psalms 2-7** to 9:—“*Thou art my Son; this day have I begotten thee . . . I shall give thee the nations for thine inheritance . . . and thou shalt break (or rule) them with a rod of iron.*” Christ was “*begotten*” at His first advent, and at His second, as we read in **Rev. 19-15**, “*He shall rule them with a rod of iron.*” We know that in the meantime Christ is sitting at the right hand of the throne of God, and so John also noticed that the man-child was caught up unto His throne.

Hence the woman in **Rev. 12** must symbolise natural Israel out of which came Christ born of the Messianic branch of the House of David, of the Royal tribe of Judah, one of the twelve tribes of Israel. Isaiah speaking as the mouthpiece of Israel anticipatively



looked forward to the promised Messiah who would be born of the seed of Israel and some day rule all nations. **Isaiah 9-6, 7:**—“*For unto us (Israel) a CHILD is born, unto us a SON is given, and the government shall be upon his shoulders . . . upon the throne of David.*” Thus **Rev. 12** takes us back to the days of the first advent of Christ. We ask who then was symbolised by the dragon who sought to devour the child?

The “*ten horns*” identify the dragon as the “*fourth beast*” in **Dan. 7**. God showed Daniel that during Israel’s dispersion and chastisement, there would be four successive Gentile empires dominating the civilized world, which empires Daniel saw in his vision symbolised by “*four beasts.*” (**Dan. 7-7, 23** reads, “*After this I saw a fourth beast, and it had TEN HORNS . . . ‘the fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon the earth.’*”) Now in John’s day, 96 A.D., three of the prophesied empires had come and passed away—Babylon, Medo-Persia, and Greece. Hence the ten-horned beast of both Daniel’s and John’s visions represented the ROMAN EMPIRE. We ask what was symbolised by the dragon’s “*seven heads . . . and seven crowns upon his heads?*” Just as the brain controls the body, so the crowned heads must have represented seven consecutive governments over the Roman Empire (page 19). The fact that John saw Daniel’s “*fourth beast*” represented as a “*dragon*” identifies it as the PAGAN Roman Empire since the Romans both worshipped the dragon, and made its image one of their sacred standards, (as illustrated on page 9).

In verse 4 John describes a characteristic of the dragon which further identifies him as the power of Rome just prior to the first advent of Christ:—“*And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth.*” The stars in the firmament of John’s vision symbolised the rulers in the “*prophetic earth*” or lands of the four Gentiles empires of prophecy. Verse 4 is thus a picture of Rome conquering a third of the prophetic earth and displacing the rulers thereof. History records for us how that just prior to the first advent, in 63 B.C., the Romans conquered the Near East including Palestine, and displaced the local rulers by Roman

governors, etc., in this Eastern “*third*” of the prophetic earth. This is the explanation of the rest of verse 4 that then “*the dragon STOOD BEFORE the woman which was ready to be delivered, to devour her child as soon as it was born.*” When the Romans conquered Palestine in which dwelt the Messianic branch of the House of David, Satan was in a position to use the might of Rome to endeavour to destroy the Son of God, and thus frustrate God’s plan of redeeming Israel and saving the world.

Verse 5 describes how the woman brought forth the man-child who was then caught up to the throne of God. We might at first think that this refers to the birth of Christ as a babe, but He was not taken up into heaven immediately after His birth! A study of other scriptures shows that this verse symbolises a far more significant “*birth,*” namely, His RESURRECTION when God begat His Son from the grave in resurrection glory through the mighty power of the Holy Spirit. Paul’s sermon in **Acts 13** proves that this is the correct interpretation. In the synagogue at Antioch, Paul reviewed the history of Israel down to the Jews’ rejection of Christ “*BUT,*” said Paul, as in verses 30 to 33, “*God raised him from the dead . . . as it is written in the second Psalm, ‘Thou art my son, THIS DAY HAVE I BEGOTTEN THEE,’*” i.e., it was on the day of Christ’s resurrection that the “*man-child*” was “*brought forth*” and given all power in heaven and earth as the Messiah of Israel.

Before His resurrection, the Jews failed to recognise Christ as the promised Messiah; even His closest disciples were filled with perplexity and anguish on the eve of His betrayal and death. Christ comforted them with the promise that He would rise again, and likened their sorrow to that of the travail of a woman who though in pain would afterwards have great joy at the birth of a son. **John 16-20, 21:**—

“Ye shall be sorrowful but your sorrow shall be turned into joy. A woman when she is in travail hath sorrow because her hour is come; but as soon as she is delivered of the child she remembereth no more the anguish for joy that a man is born into the world. And ye now therefore have sorrow: but I will see you again, and your hearts shall rejoice.”

Israel for centuries had treasured the many Messianic prophecies with longing for His advent, and in the hearts of the disciples, the local representatives of Israel, that longing reached the point of agonising travail at Christ's crucifixion. We notice that when He thus foretold His resurrection, Christ used the very same symbolism as John records in **Rev. 12**, which again proves that **Rev. 12** symbolises His resurrection and not His literal birth as a babe. We now ask the question how did the "*dragon*" endeavour to prevent the resurrection of Christ, that is, "*devour her child as soon as it was born.*" The answer comes from Matthew's account of the death and resurrection of Christ. In **Matt. 27-62** we read:—

"The chief priests came to Pilate (the Roman Governor) saying 'Sir, we remember that that deceiver said, 'After three days I will rise again.' Command therefore that the sepulchre be made secure until the third day, lest His disciples come by night and steal Him away, and say unto the people, 'He is risen from the dead.' Pilate said unto them, 'Ye have a watch, go your way, make it as sure as ye can.' So they went and made the sepulchre sure, sealing the stone and setting a watch (of soldiers)."

Here we see how Satan using as his tools the powers of the Roman Empire, endeavoured to devour Christ as soon as He was "*born*" or resurrected by sealing the tomb wherein He was lain. Matthew goes on to describe the result:—

"And behold there was a great earthquake; for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door and sat upon it, and the keepers became as dead men."

Christ thus came forth and the dragon's endeavour to devour Him was frustrated. We read in **Acts 1** that after instructing His disciples for forty days in the things pertaining to the Kingdom of God, Christ ascended off the Mount of Olives to the right hand of the throne of God from whence He will return to rule the nations, all exactly as John saw symbolised in **Rev. 12**.

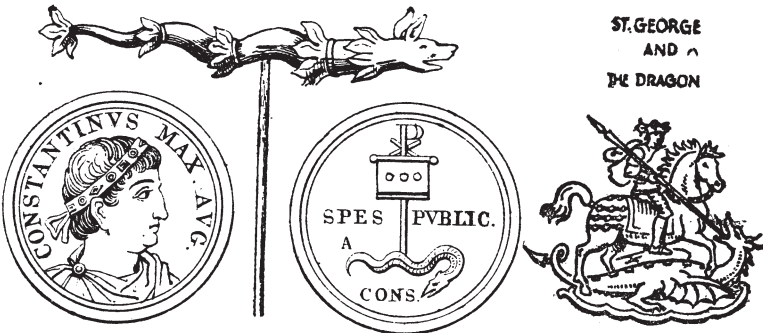
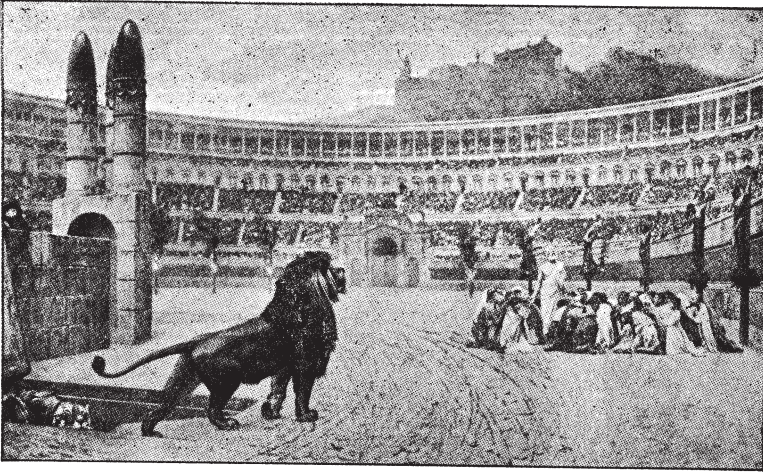
6. "And the woman fled into (or toward) the wilderness, where she hath a place prepared of God that they should feed her there a thousand two hundred and threescore days." John thus continues his record of the dramatisation. The true meaning of this verse hinges around the Greek word "*eis*" translated in the A.V. "*into.*" It is

used in the Bible many times to mean "*toward*" as well as "*into*." This alters the whole meaning of the above verse since Israel did not reach or enter any appointed place of safety until five centuries AFTER Christ's first advent. True to the above verse, in the early centuries of the Christian era the masses of Israel who never returned to Palestine from the dispersion of 741-721 B.C., were moving through Eastern Europe TOWARD their appointed place where they would sojourn for "*1260 days*" which would be 1260 years in fulfilled prophecy.

### THE FALL OF ROMAN HEATHENISM.

Rev. 12-7, to 9.

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| <p>7. "And there was war in heaven: Michael and his angels fought against the dragon; and the dragon fought and his angels.</p> <p>8. And prevailed not; neither was their place found any more in heaven.</p> <p>9. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world . . . and his angels were cast out with him."</p> <p>10. And I heard a loud voice saying in heaven, 'Now is come salvation, and strength and the Kingdom of our God . . . for the accuser of our brethren is cast down.'</p> <p>11. And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony; and they loved not their lives unto the death.</p> <p>12. Therefore rejoice ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them.' 'Woe to the inhabitants of the earth . . . for the Devil is come down unto you having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.'</p> | <p>The Christian dispensation is one of spiritual warfare between the servants of God and the servants of Satan, the physical counterpart and effect of which we see on the earth in the rise and fall of nations and rulers. The first three centuries of the Christian era saw continual conflict between Christianity and Roman heathenism in which "<i>war</i>" historians estimate that 10,000,000 Christians suffered martyrdom. However John foretold that Roman heathenism would be cast down. The story is familiar how Constantine, the patron of the Christians, defeated the heathen emperors, and in 313 A.D. issued a decree of toleration to Christians. During the fourth century A.D., under the leadership of Constantine and succeeding Christian emperors, the Pagan temples</p> |
|---|--|



Above:—Illustrating the “war” of Pagan Rome against the Christians shown burning in the arena or awaiting the lions.

Below:—A Roman standard showing the dragon. A coin of Constantine illustrating the fall of heathenism. Story of St. George and the Dragon also illustrates the fulfilment of Rev. 12.

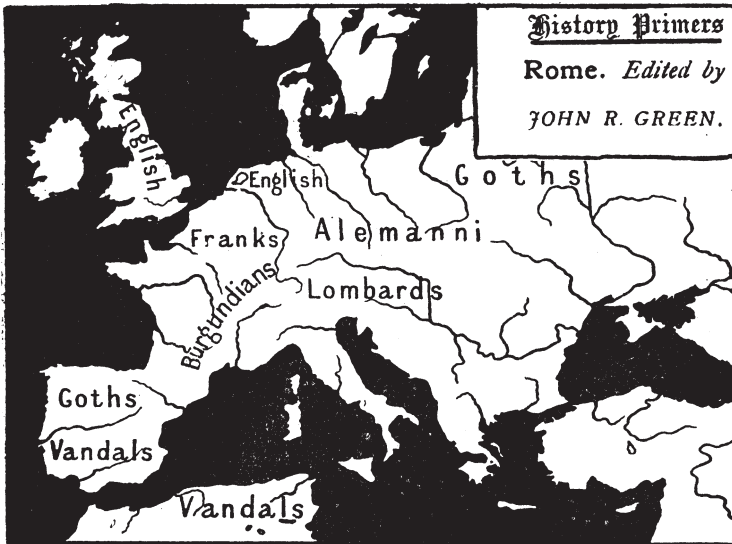
were destroyed and Pagan priests cast down from their positions of authority over the Roman populace, exactly fulfilling the above verses.

John tells how that then he heard a voice proclaim the near establishment of the kingdom of God. The voice was a Christian one since it called the martyrs of Pagan Rome “*our brethren.*” Here we see the im-

pression made on the minds of the Christians by the mighty overthrow of Paganism throughout the Empire that surely the very kingdom of God was about to appear. Historical records show that the nominal conversion of the Empire to Christianity, and the casting off of heathen idolatry caused many to think that the millennium was about to commence. Also the coins of Constantine and succeeding Christian emperors illustrate the fulfilment of these verses by showing the cross of Christ triumphant over the fallen dragon. In verse 11, John describes how the same voice gave honour to the martyrs, and historians such as Gibbon tell us how the newly elevated Christian rulers of Rome publicly honoured the martyrs as having been largely responsible for the fall of Paganism by their testimony and willingness to suffer unto death. In fact so much tribute was paid to the martyrs that the impression gained ground that the fall of heathen idolatry was due to the martyrs' intercession before God in heaven. In the fourth century, their graves and relics began to be worshipped, and the dead martyrs regarded as intercessors to God—all of which opened the way for the superstitions and Christianised idolatry of the Middle Ages. The first half of verse 12 records the imperial command for general rejoicing among the Christians then elevated into the political heavens.

The second half of verse 12 however records another voice with a cry of the very opposite character, that of warning:—“*WOE to the inhabitants of the earth . . . for the devil is come down unto you, having great wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time.*” Amidst the wide-spread rejoicing at the defeat of heathenism, Christians forgot that the “*man of sin*” or “*anti-christ*” had yet to come, and before the second advent of Christ; and so John received the warning voice of the Spirit of God that, though apparently defeated, the devil would in his anger evolve a still more awful persecution than he had ever inspired through his instrument of Pagan Rome.

The voice gave the reason for Satan's last mighty warfare against God, that he knew his time of liberty was limited. It is difficult for mortals to visualise the



This map from a secular history book shows the escape of Israel (the English) from the Continent into Britain during the Gothic flood.

mind of Satan but according to this verse the enemy of God knew that the fall of Paganism was a prominent milestone indicating that his period of liberty would terminate within a comparatively short time.

13. "And when the dragon saw that he was cast into the earth, he persecuted the woman which brought forth the man-child.
15. And . . . cast out of his mouth water as a flood after the woman that he might cause her to be carried away of the flood.
16. And the earth helped the woman . . . and swallowed up the flood.
14. And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness, into

Verses 13 and 15 then describe the dragon's next move in opposition to God. Somewhere in Europe in the fourth and fifth centuries A.D., the tribes of Israel were wandering (according to **Hosea 9-17**, "*they shall be wanderers among the nations,*") on their way toward the place prepared of God. In his anger at the defeat of Paganism, the serpent cast out water as a flood in the hope that the

her place, where she is nourished for a time, and times, and half a time, from the face of the serpent."

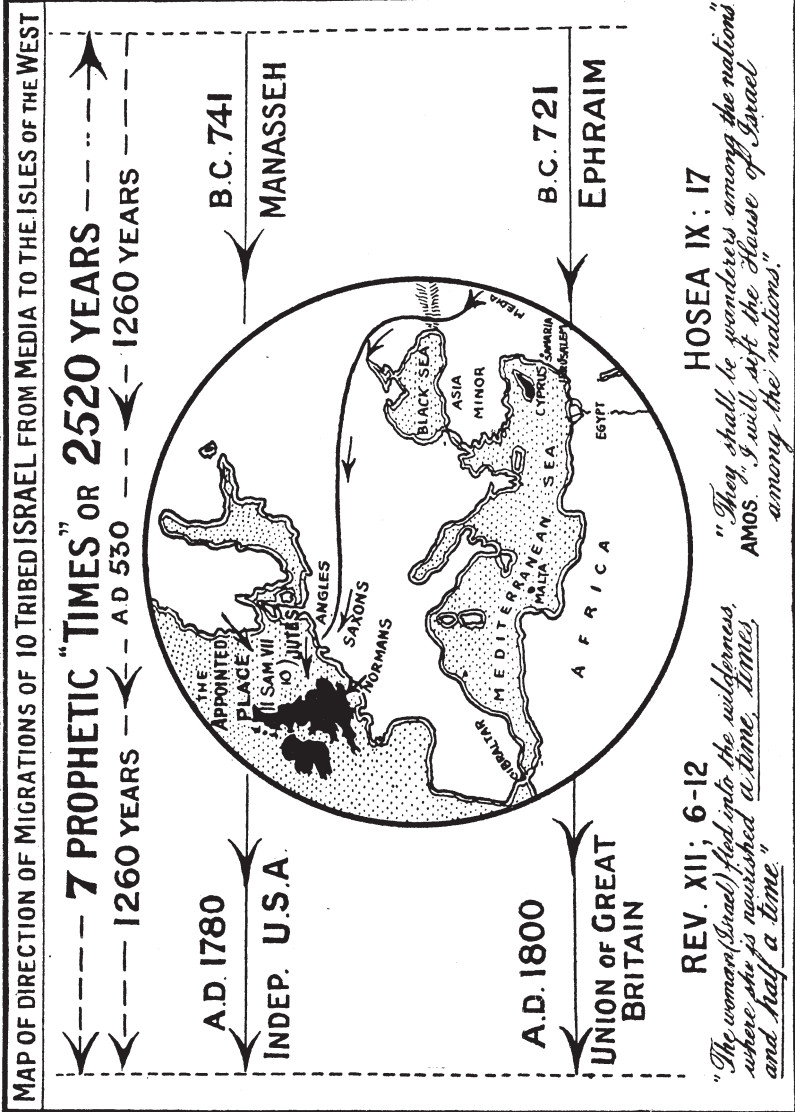
flood would engulf Israel. This metaphor is taken from the practice of alligators or dragons drawing in water and then spouting it out again. The Roman rulers at various times had invited Pagan Goths and Vandals into the territories of the Empire. Also in the fourth and fifth centuries when the Empire was tottering to its ruin in civil war, the barbarians were invited in by rival generals to fight for them. These Goths rebelled from their allegiance to Roman rulers, and in turn attacked the Empire and overran all Western Continental Europe in the fifth century. Satan however was defeated in his purpose of destroying Israel by two means described by John in verses 16 and 14.

The barbarian flood disappeared as if swallowed up in the earth by intermingling with the Romans and settling down as independent kingdoms. Thus the woman Israel escaped from what might have been annihilation at the hands of the Gothic hordes which swept across Europe. The second means by which the dragon was defeated is described in verse 14. The woman was Divinely guided into the "*wilderness*" or "*place prepared of God*" toward which John had already described Israel as moving in the early Christian era, (as in verse 6).

In **2 Sam. 7-10**, we read that God promised David the latter's throne and kingdom of Israel would last for ever. Anticipating that Israel would be exiled from Palestine for her sins, God also gave the following promises to David, "**MOREOVER I WILL APPOINT A PLACE FOR MY PEOPLE ISRAEL, AND WILL PLANT THEM, that they may dwell in a place of their own, and move no more, neither shall the children of wickedness afflict them any more as before time.**" John thus records in **Rev. 12** a vision of the fulfilment of this promise with the further detail that Israel would there be nourished for "*3½ times*" which was apparently to be the second half of the "*seven times*" dispersion.

In the fifth and sixth centuries A.D., somewhere in Europe the tribes of Israel must have been moving to fulfil their destiny, and somewhere God must have prepared a place of safety where the Roman-Gothic nations





of Continental Europe, though animated by Satan, would be unable to destroy His people and David's throne. It takes very little thought to see that the only place of safety fulfilling the description of both **2 Sam. 7** and **Rev. 12** was the BRITISH ISLES cut off from the mainland of Europe by the sea which provided a natural fortress against invasion from the Continent. Also when the Goths overflowed Europe, the Roman soldiers were forced to withdraw entirely from England about 410 A.D., thus leaving vacant this section of the appointed place ready for Israel to move into! How marvellously do all things work together for God's purpose. In both verses 6 and 14 the appointed place is called a "wilderness." The Greek word "eremos" translated "wilderness" does not necessarily mean a barren waste, but a "DESERTED PLACE" (according to Young's Concordance) which was exactly the condition of England on the arrival of the Angles and Saxons. When the armies of Rome completely evacuated England, it was left a deserted wilderness. Hutchinson's *History of the Nations* tells us how the new arrivals wandered in amazement through whole towns deserted without an inhabitant. That the British Isles have since been a place of safety and protection, none can deny. Never since the last migration of Anglo-Saxon-Israel reached Britain, have these isles been successfully invaded. God has been true to His promises to Israel.

We note that in John's description of the flight of the "woman" into "the appointed place" that she was given "two wings of a great EAGLE." This is another proof that the woman is Israel since God used the same figure of speech to describe His similar guidance of Israel from Egypt into Palestine as in **Deut. 32-11**, "As an EAGLE stirreth up her nest, fluttereth over her young, spreadeth abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings, so the Lord did lead ISRAEL."

17. "And the dragon was wrath with the woman and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ."

This last verse of **Rev. 12** shows that the dragon, foiled in his attempt to destroy Israel, would turn his attention to destroying a REMNANT of Israel left in Con-

tinental Europe. The remnant were to become Christians and special witnesses for Christ. As they would witness in the very lands dominated by Satan, so they were bound to suffer, as the above verse foretold. It thus seems as if the Continental martyrs of the Middle Ages such as the Huguenots were the remnant of Israel kept back on the Continent to be God's special witnesses to truth amidst Roman Catholic darkness. If the remnant were to become Christian, we conclude the mass of Israel in the appointed place would also become Christian. This again proves that the "*woman*" symbolises Israel, since natural Israel through the new covenant was to become the greatest Christian race in the world. In Isaiah God speaks to latter-day Israel as follows, "*Thou Israel art my servant,*" (41-8). "*Ye are my witnesses,*" (43-10). This also proves beyond all argument that the Anglo-Saxon race is modern Israel.

**Note (1)** :—One of the most conclusive proofs that the Jews are not ALL Israel, as many people think, is that the Jews have never till recently contained any Christians, and hence have had no "*seed which kept the testimony of Jesus Christ.*" If the woman Israel with her Christian seed is not seen in the Anglo-Saxon race, where is she?

**Note (2)** :—Protestant interpreters who knew nothing about Anglo-Saxon-Israel identity used to interpret the "*woman*" as the Christian church, and get themselves into all kinds of contradictions. It is now obvious that the "*woman*" could not symbolise the early church since Christ was born and resurrected BEFORE the church came into existence. Nor could she represent the martyr-church of the Middle Ages since the "*serpent*" made war against it, whereas the "*woman*" was to be protected by God from the "*serpent.*"

**Note (3)** :—By comparing verses 6 and 14, we see that "*3½ times*" must be equal to "*1260 days.*" Then one "*time*" equals "*360 days.*" Then the "*seven times*" of Israel's exile from Palestine equals "*2520 days*" or YEARS in fulfilled prophecy. Hence during the second half of the dispersion, Israel was to be strengthened in the appointed place. According to secular history, the

years 520 to 540 A.D. were the central years of the Anglo-Saxon migration into England, and those years were exactly half-way through the “*seven times*” dispersion dated from the first year of the dispersion, 741 B.C., when the tribes of Manasseh, Reuben and Gad were carried away captive into Media. At the end of the “*seven times*,” two of the tribes of Israel, Ephraim and Manasseh, were to become a “*Company of Nations*” and a “*Great People*” respectively. Now the exact end of the 1260 years’ sojourn would be 520-540 plus 1260 years equals 1780-1800, when there was laid the foundation of the “*Great People*” of the U.S.A. by the Declaration of Independence, and the foundation of the British Commonwealth of Nations by Britain’s sea-power and colonial expansion.

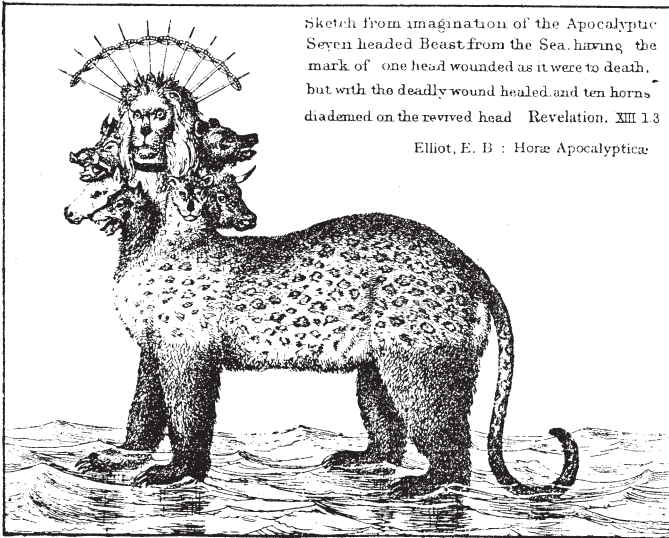
The founders of the U.S.A., from the Pilgrim Fathers onwards, considered their experience was similar to that of the “*woman*” in **Rev. 12**, and consequently when the time came for national symbols to be selected to represent their country, they chose the sun, moon and stars of the Israel woman of verse 1, and the eagle of verse 16. As there were originally 13 American colonies, their Great Seal which was adopted in 1782 shows 13 stars above the two wings of the eagle. Little did the fathers of the U.S.A. realise the tremendous significance of their action that the U.S.A. was actually the Manasseh section of the woman Israel. When Jacob on his death-bed gave his son Joseph the birth-right blessing to become the leading tribe, he gave him two portions of tribal blessing which were in turn passed to Joseph’s two sons Ephraim and Manasseh. Thus Manasseh became the THIRTEENTH tribe of Israel (though the Bible still refers to the “TWELVE tribes of Israel” since the tribe of Levi eventually became the priesthood). The flag of the President of the U.S.A. shows thirteen suns and moons and thirteen stars above the eagle, and also eight more groups of thirteen symbols. Such a repetition of the number thirteen in the heraldry of the U.S.A., coupled with the Bible symbols of Israel, was no mere coincidence but the Divine guidance of God by which we are able to-day to identify that “*Great People*” as Manasseh-Israel. (See the symbols on page 54).

## REVELATION 13.

**Rev. 13** is John's record of his second vision in Part 2. This time there are three actors:—(1) a ten-horned beast, (2) a two-horned beast, and (3) an image of the ten-horned beast.

### THE TEN-HORNED BEAST. Rev. 13-1 to 4.

1. "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 names of blasphemy.
  2. . . . and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat and great authority.
  3. And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to
- Verses 1 to 4 describe how John seemed to stand on the beach of the "sea" of flood waters. Out of the latter rose up a beast whose characteristics showed that he represented the SAME lands of the "dragon" or Pagan Roman Empire, with the difference that the CROWNS were on the "ten



Sketch from imagination of the Apocalyptic Seven headed Beast from the Sea, having the mark of one head wounded as it were to death, but with the deadly wound healed, and ten horns diademed on the revived head. Revelation. XIII 13

Elliot, E. B. : Hora: Apocalypticæ

death; and his deadly wound was healed; and all the world wondered after the beast.

4. . . . and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?"

*horns.*" This symbolised an enormous change in the government of the Roman earth in that royal authority would be shared by the "*ten horns.*" True to this prophecy, history tells us that when Imperial Pagan Rome

passed away in the deluge of the barbarian invasions, out of that "*sea*" there arose, 500-600 A.D., ten independent kingdoms in Western Europe. In verse 2 John describes how the dragon gave the beast his "*seat.*" True to this prophecy we have the astounding historical fact that in spite of the destruction of the city of Rome and its complete abandonment as the Imperial capital of the Pagan Empire, it arose again to be the capital of Papal Europe in the Middle Ages. In like manner, the power and authority of the Pagan Emperors was transferred to the dynasty of Popes exactly as this verse foretold.

This change from Pagan to Papal Rome is further described in verse 3 where John tells how he saw that one of the heads of the beast had been wounded to death, but had grown again. (Evidently John could see the scar where the head had been lopped off.) We conclude that the latter head was the seventh or last head of the "*dragon,*" so that this would refer to the fall of Imperial Pagan Rome in the fourth and fifth centuries A.D. Then a miracle happened, for a new head grew and took its place to the great wonder of the world. True to this dramatisation we know that in spite of the fact that Rome was laid in ruins and the last emperors vanquished, there arose as if by a miracle a new head, the **POPES**, who as history records became like the Cæsars of old. Verse 4 describes the obedience of the people to the new organisation of the Roman earth, and their recognition of the enormous authority of the Papacy so that none dared war against it.

Verses 5 to 10 then go on to describe (1) HOW the new "*head*" of the Roman nation gained such tremendous authority, and (2) his character, duration of power, and final doom.

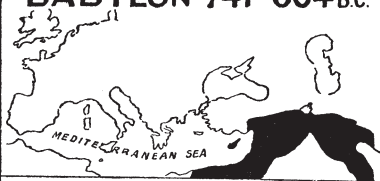
# The Four Gentile Empires of Daniel Revelation

"These four beasts are four Empires which shall arise." Daniel 7-17

**1<sup>ST</sup> BEAST**



**BABYLON 741-604 B.C.**



**2<sup>ND</sup> BEAST**



**MEDO-PERSIA 536 B.C.**



**3<sup>RD</sup> BEAST**



**GREECE 336 B.C.**



**THE 4<sup>TH</sup> BEAST** **REVEL. 12** A Dragon having seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns upon his heads

**THAT WAS**



**THAT IS NOT.**

**REVEL. 13** A Beast having seven heads and ten horns and ten crowns upon his horns.

**YET IS**



6 C  
741

"I will chastise you (Jerusalem) seven times (25-20 years) for your sins." Leviticus 26

1780  
AD

**THE RISE OF THE PAPACY. Rev. 13-5 to 10.**

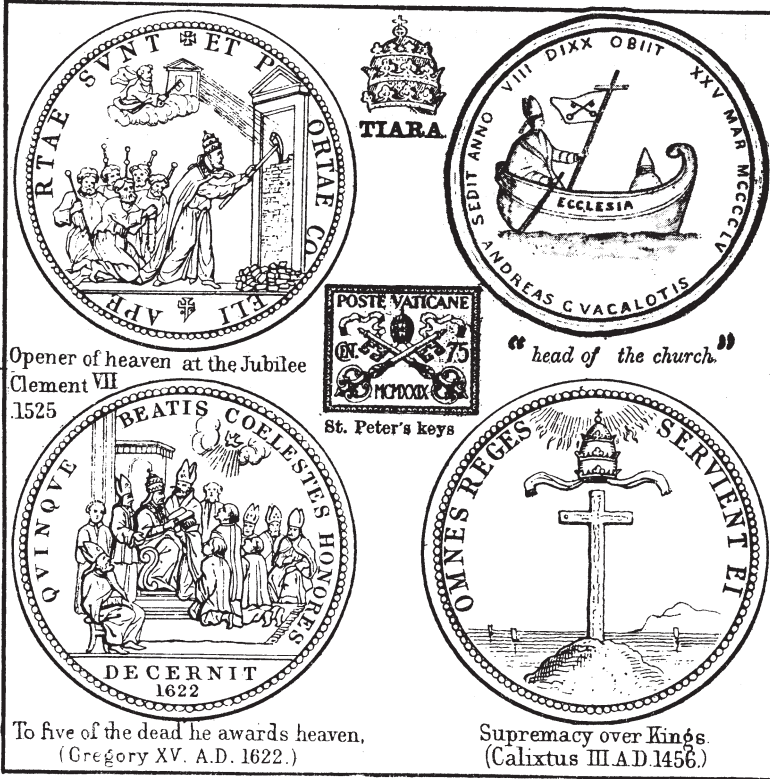
5. "And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. History shows the fact that the Papacy was the revived head of the Roman earth and ruled with the might of the Cæsars. We ask how did the Bishop or head of the local church in Rome rise to be head of all the churches of Christendom, and then king over all the kings of Western Europe? Verse 5 gives the answer—"BY SPEAKING GREAT THINGS AND BLASPHEMIES." In the fifth century A.D., the Bishops of the church at Rome made the following utterly false claims:—(1) That Peter founded the church at Rome and was its first Bishop; (2) that Peter was the vice-regent of Christ and that by
6. And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme . . . them that dwell in heaven.
7. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them; and power was given him over all . . . nations.
8. And all that dwell upon the (Roman) earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb.
10. He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity; he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. Here is the patience and the faith of the saints."

means of the "*keys of the Kingdom of Heaven*" Peter could open and shut the doors to heaven and hell at his will; (3) that these miraculous keys were passed on from Peter to succeeding Bishops of the church at Rome. (4) that therefore each Bishop at Rome was in turn the vice-regent of Peter and hence the vice-regent of Christ; (5) that therefore the Bishop of Rome was superior to all other Bishops and ought to be the head of all churches, and that kings ought to bow the neck to this head of Christendom.

The Roman-Gothic nations and their kings finally accepted these absurd claims. Moreover in 533 A.D. Justinian, the Emperor of the "*Eastern Roman Empire*," wrote to the Pope recognising him as the head of all the churches.

The utter falseness of the above claims is evident to any student of the Bible. Not one scripture says that





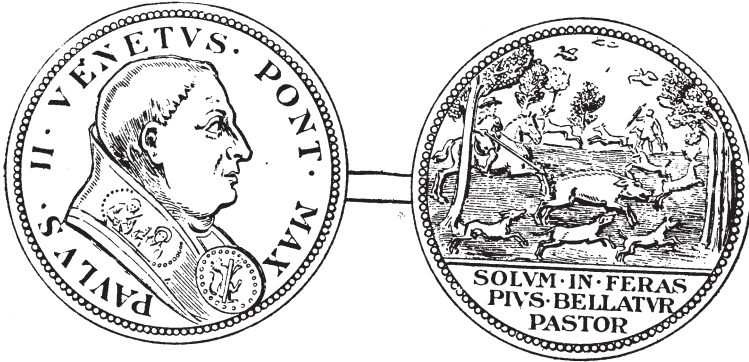
The Vatican stamp shows the Papal seal with the two keys claiming the right and power to unlock heaven and hades. The Tiara or triple crown of the Pope symbolises the claims to be king of heaven, earth and hades. The four Papal medals show the claims of the Papacy to be able to dispense heaven's blessings, to give eternal life to the dead, to be "head of the church" and "king of kings."

Peter ever founded the church at Rome or was its first Bishop; all the evidence shows the impossibility of such. Nowhere does the Bible say Peter was Christ's vice-regent, but as an apostle he was equal to the other apostles. The "keys of the kingdom of heaven" promised him in **Matt. 16-19** simply symbolised the privilege which he had in opening the door to the blessings of the New Covenant by being the first one to preach the gospel to

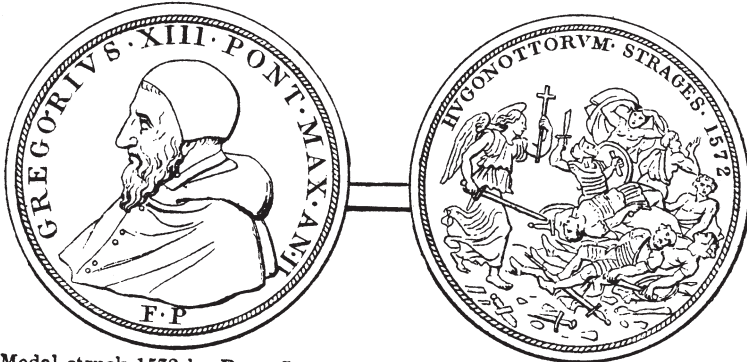
both Israel and the Gentiles as in **Acts 2** and **10**. But Peter never had the power to shut the doors he then metaphorically opened, and the doors have been open ever since! The Bishops of Rome on the other hand pretended that the keys controlled all the inhabitants of heaven and hell so that at their will they could pass people from one place to the other, and that these miraculous keys were handed as a legacy to the Bishops at Rome!

Such an utterance of "*great things*" and their acceptance led the Popes on to greater heights of deception and, as John records in verse 16, "*to open his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme His name . . . and them that dwell in heaven.*" Christ was (falsely) condemned of "*blasphemy*" by the Jews when He claimed to be the Son of God, and to be able to forgive sins. So the Popes who took unto themselves all the attributes of Divinity by calling themselves "*the Lord God the Pope, His Holiness, the Holy Father, King of Kings and Lord of Lords,*" etc., committed blasphemy. The Papacy claimed that as it was the Vicar of God, then the same worship should be given to it as to God, and so God and Christ were displaced from Christendom by the Popes. Also acting out the claim that they had Peter's keys, the Popes pretended to forgive sins past and future and to open and shut the doors of heaven and hell at will, all of which acts were absolute blasphemy against God and His Christ who alone have "*all power in heaven and earth.*" Anyone who likes to read the history of the long dynasty of Popes and their claims will find that they claimed to be able to do all that God or Christ could do. The ignorant nations believed all they were told. There were very few Bibles from which the Pope's claims might be tested, and at any rate the people were taught that his sayings were infallible and to be regarded just as Divine as the scriptures. Once the nations were convinced that the eternal destiny of their souls lay entirely in the hands of the Pope, the latter became all-powerful and true to verse 8, "*all that dwelt on the (Roman) earth worshipped him.*"

However, amidst such awful lying deceptions, God had the Israel remnant of witnesses faithful to the truth



Medal of Pope Paul II., struck 1469 on occasion of the Papal crusade against Hussites in Bohemia. The inscription on the reverse is: "*The pious Shepherd wages war only against wild beasts.*"



Medal struck 1572 by Pope Gregory XIII. to commemorate the Massacre of St. Bartholomew. "*Massacre of the Huguenots.*" An Angel with cross and sword kills some and puts others to flight.

who protested against the unscriptural claims of the Papacy. When the Waldenses, Albigenses, Vaudois, Wicliffites, Hussites, Reformers, etc., realised and taught that the Papal dynasty was none other than the prophesied "*man of sin,*" the "*anti-christ,*" the revived "*head*" of the "*beast*" of Revelation, the result was WAR exactly as verse 7 foretold—"*And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them.*" Only a few typical examples of this persecution can be quoted here from Foxe's authoritative *Book of Martyrs.*

In 1179 A.D., Pope Alexander III. commanded that the Waldenses be exterminated, with the result that Philip, king of France, totally destroyed the Waldensian province of Picardy. The towns were burnt to the ground, the Reformers burnt alive, others exiled, and their lands and goods confiscated by the priests.

In 1198, Pope Innocent III. commenced a systematic wholesale slaughter of Albigenses promising “paradise” to all who joined the so-called “*crusaders*” which murdered tens of thousands of Protestants. For example, in 1208, the city of Beziers in S. France was reduced to ruins and 60,000 butchered by the sword or burnt alive, the women outraged, and the children dashed to pieces. This same Pope in 1206 caused the establishment of the INQUISITION under priests as judges all through Europe. On the slightest pretext of “heresy,” with mock trials hundreds of thousands of Christians were condemned to suffer awful tortures of thumb-screws, racks and wheels, imprisonment in foul dungeons, and to be burnt alive chained to the stake. Who has not shuddered in reading of the cruelties of the SPANISH INQUISITION?

Pope Paul III. (1534) commanded the Duke of Savoy to exterminate the Vaudois in the valleys of Piedmont, Northern Italy, with the following result, (quoted from Foxe).

“. . . the Duke entered the Piedmontes valley with a great body of troops, and began a most furious persecution, in which great numbers were hanged, drowned, tied to trees, and pierced with prongs, thrown from precipices, burnt, stabbed, racked to death, worried by dogs, and crucified with their heads downwards. Those who fled had their goods plundered and their homes burnt.”

Again, in 1655, awful atrocities were committed on the Vaudois in the mountains of Piedmont by the Duke of Savoy’s troops, the result of which caused the mighty poet Milton to send forth his glorious sonnet, commencing—

*“Avenge, O Lord, Thy slaughtered saints, whose bones  
Lie scattered on the Alpine mountains cold!”*

In 1567, the Duke of Alva was commanded by Philip II. to destroy the Protestants in the Netherlands. In

“The Pope’s legate cried out to the troops,  
 “Kill them! kill them all! kill man, woman, and child!”



Left:—An illustration from Foxe’s Book of Martyrs of an incident in the butchering of the Protestants in the city of Bezier, during the first time of torturing”—typical of the methods of the Spanish Inquisition.



less than six years, he put to death 18,000 by the sword, gibbet, rack and flames.

Then we recall the awful massacre of 60,000 Protestants in France commencing on St. Bartholomew's Day, August 24th, 1572, at the hands of the French troops without any warning in Paris, Toulouse, Orleans, Rouen, Lyons, Meldis, Blois, etc. Amidst great rejoicing, Pope Gregory XIII. caused a medal to be struck to commemorate the slaughter.

Finally, here is the summary of that great student of prophecy, Grattan Guinness, who wrote on page 212 of his *Approaching End of the Age*:—"It has been calculated that the Popes of Rome have, directly or indirectly, slain on account of their faith, fifty millions of martyrs."

Everywhere in Continental Europe the Papacy pursued its war against all "*heretics, wild beasts, children of the devil, spawn of hell,*" as the poor Bible Christians were called, and as foretold everywhere overcame them. Such dominion however was limited to "*forty-two months*" (verse 5), that is 1260 prophetic "*days*" or years, at the end of which John foretold in verse 10 that "*he that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity; he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword. HERE is the patience and faith of the saints.*" If we date the initial rise of the Papacy as 533 A.D., then 1260 years later is 1793, the year of the French Revolution, as a result of which the Pope was taken from prison to prison, and the colossal wealth of the Papal States confiscated by the French army. In the succeeding 19th century the Papal power has been further consumed by captivity and the sword in the French Revolution of 1848, and in the final union of Italy in 1870. Thus we see fulfilled the prophecy which was given to inspire the martyrs with patience and faith as they realised that the power which sent them to the Inquisition was limited in its duration, and would be consumed by the very same brutal means it had employed.

John then described a second character who was the agent who administered the power of the "*beast*" and caused the people to worship him.



The Pope carried away captive by French troops in 1798.

### THE TWO-HORNED BEAST. Rev. 13-11 to 13.

11. "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.
  12. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth . . . to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed.
  13. And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth."
- We ask what organisation was represented by this beast in sheep's clothing? John describes the final destruction of the ten-horned beast at Christ's advent, in **Rev. 19-20**, where we read "*and the beast and the FALSE PROPHET that wrought miracles before him were cast alive into the lake of fire.*" Thus another name for the two-horned beast is "*THE FALSE PROPHET.*" In **Matt. 7-15**, Christ warned His disciples to "*beware of false prophets which come in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.*" This shows that the two-horned beast represents a false priesthood, a substitute for true Christianity, a system which had Christian names and ceremonies but taught false doctrines and practices. Thus

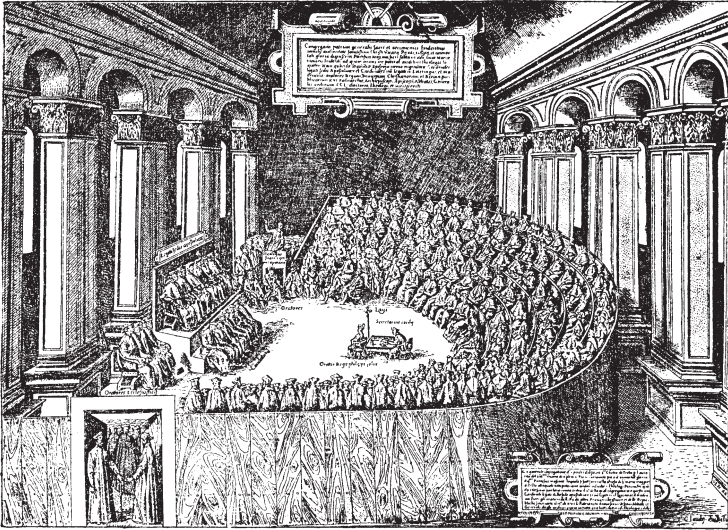
we can identify the two-horned beast without any doubt as representing the multitudes of the Roman Catholic priesthood who were leagued together to carry out the commands of the Pope and to teach the people to worship him as God. We see the accuracy of Christ's prophetic warning, as above, in that ever since Pope Gregory (590 A.D.), the Archbishops and Bishops of Rome on taking their vows of implicit obedience to the Papacy have been invested with a pallium made out of specially blessed lamb's wool as the evidence of their authority. It is also remarkable that the Bishop's mitre used to be cleft from front to back so that it looked like "*two horns*," and even still has that appearance.

In regard to the fulfilment of verse 6 how the two-horned beast "*doeth great wonders so that he maketh fire come down from heaven, etc.*," the ignorant people were so carried away by the claims of the Papal church that they regarded the acts of the church as "*great wonders.*" Many faked miracles were performed by the priests to deceive the people, such as winking, crying and bleeding images of Mary and numerous "saints." The priests were thus looked upon with such awe and reverence that their ex-communications and judgments were regarded as "*fire from heaven*" itself. The clergy had such power over the people that it really looked like the very judgment of heaven when they exercised their power.

### **THE IMAGE OF THE BEAST. Rev. 13-14, 15.**

14. "And deceiveth them . . . by means of those miracles . . . saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast which had the wound by the sword, and and live,
15. And he had power to give life to the image that it should both speak and cause that as many as would not worship the image should be killed."
- Verses 14 and 15 then describe how the two-horned beast caused the inhabitants of the Roman earth to make an "*image*" of the ten-horned beast or Papal Empire. An image is a picture, or model, or representation, and so we see here a symbolic account of the formation of the GENERAL COUNCILS of the Church of Rome. It was the Papal clergy who caused the Councils to come into existence.





An etching of the famous Council of Trent 1545, when the "image" or representative of the Latin world "spoke" many laws governing the Church of Rome.

The clergy alone could vote in the Councils, just as John saw that it was the two-horned beast which gave life or breath to the image causing it to "*speak*," that is, pass laws. From 1153 to 1545 there were twelve such Councils which formulated the doctrines and laws of the Church of Rome. John noticed that the image would cause all who would not worship it to be killed. In fulfilment we know that the Councils resolutely decreed that those who would not obey what it "*spoke*," i.e., its doctrines, etc., were to be killed. For example the Council of Constance condemned Huss and Jerome to be burnt alive in 1415-16.

### **THE MARK OF THE BEAST. Rev. 13-16 to 18.**

16. "And he (the two horned beast) caused all, small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark (or literally in the Greek "to GIVE THEMSELVES

The analogy here is taken from the customs familiar in John's day of having distinguishing marks on slaves, soldiers of the emperor, and

A MARK") in their right hands or in their foreheads:

17. And that no man might buy or sell, save that he had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.
18. 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 three-score and six." (666.)

members of religious sects. We ask what was the distinguishing mark which the Papal clergy caused all the inhabitants of Western Europe to receive willingly, and which identified them as members of the Papal system? As Revelation is so much symbolic, we do not expect this to be a literal mark, nor does history ever record any such literal marking of themselves by the inhabitants of Papal Europe. Verses 17 and 18 help us to solve the problem as to what the symbolic mark is:—

- (1) The "*mark*" is the "*name of the beast*." Well, what name did history give to the Papal Empire?
- (2) The "*name of the beast*" is the "*name of a man*."
- (3) The numerical value of the "*name of the beast*" or the "*name of the man*" is 666.

As to (1), when Pagan Imperial Rome fell to the Goths, the Eastern GREEK half continued functioning as the Eastern Roman Empire, while Western Rome, for contrast, became known as the LATIN world, the LATIN nations, and are still so called. Then Pope Vitallian issued a decree commanding the exclusive use of LATIN in all the services of the church, its prayers and sacraments, etc. The LATIN Vulgate version of the Bible was recognised as the only authentic version. Everything was Latinised in the church so that, at the lead of the priests, every inhabitant of Western Europe as a member of the church used Latin and thus willingly received the characteristic "*mark*" of the "*beast*" or Latin world. It is significant that Pope Vitallian's Latinising decree was made exactly 666 years after the birth of Christ.

As to (2), the word LATIN in the Latin language is LATINUS which is a proper noun and the name of the father of the Latin race. Hence the name of the Papal Empire, i.e., the LATIN Empire, is also the name of a man.

Finally, as to (3), it will be shown that the numerical value of the name "Latin" is 666. In John's day it was the custom in certain religions for the worshippers to wear the "mark" of their god which was the numerical value of his name. For example, if in the English alphabet we make A=1, B=2, C=3, D=4, etc., then the numerical value of the name "Ada" is 1+4+1=6. Now we have to decide in which language are we to count the number or numerical value of the name of the beast. As the Book of Revelation was written in Greek, and as Christ took the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet as one of His titles ("*Alpha and Omega*" as in **Rev. 22-13**), we conclude it will be the Greek form of the word "Latin" which will supply the number 666. The Greek form of "Latin," or "Latinus" the Latin man, is "LATEINOS" which as shown below adds up to 666.

ENGLISH    ROMAN    GREEK

L	L	$\lambda$ = 30	<i>Each letter of the Greek alphabet is also a number</i>
A	A	$\alpha$ = 1	
T	T	$\tau$ = 300	
I	I	$\epsilon$ = 5	
N	N	$\iota$ = 10	
	U	$\upsilon$ = 50	
	S	$\omicron$ = 70	
		$\varsigma$ = 200	
		<u><u><math>\lambda\alpha\tau\epsilon\iota\nu\omicron\varsigma</math></u></u> = <u><u>666</u></u>	

Verse 7 tells us that none might buy or sell save that he had the mark of the beast, that is unless he obeyed the rites and ceremonies of the church with its Latin prayers, etc. This prophecy is a direct reference to the well-known practice of the Church of Rome called EX-COMMUNICATION, the result of which in the economic sphere was like the modern boycott.

At the third Lateran General Council, 1179, it was commanded that no man should "*exercise traffic with*

*heretics,*” so that the Protestants were driven from the markets and towns. Pope Alexander III. (1184) passed a law forbidding the people to exercise commerce with the Waldenses and Albigenses in “*selling or buying,*” and likewise at the Constance Council, 1414. History records multitudes of such Papal decrees forbidding trading with heretics. How terrible the boycott must have been cannot be realised in Anglo-Saxon lands of justice to all, but when the whole of Western Europe was Roman Catholic, the few Protestants were in a hopeless minority, unable to sell their goods, driven from their homes, truly martyrs of the glorious company of God’s elect of whom the Latin world was not worthy to have in its midst.



## FOXES BOOK OF MARTYRS

From the title page of a copy of Foxe’s Book of Martyrs (first printed in 1563) which proves beyond all argument that the dynasty of Popes formed the “head” of the “beast” which “made war with the saints.” So important was Foxe’s Book in the Reformation that almost every English church possessed a copy chained to the public reading-desk along with the Bible, while almost every English home had a copy.

## REVELATION 17.

As **Rev. 17** interprets for us the symbols used in **Rev. 12** and **13**, the author has taken it out of its order in Revelation and proposes to comment on it here as the most suitable time and place.

First of all **Rev. 17** introduces a new character in the Apocalyptic drama, a harlot woman whom John saw carried or supported by the "beast" of **Rev. 13**. Let us identify this "whore."

### THE WHORE—BABYLON THE GREAT.

#### Rev. 17-1 to 6.

1. "And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials . . . saying unto me, Come hither; I will show unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters.
3. . . . and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns.
4. And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls . . .
5. And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.
6. And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and martyrs of Jesus: and . . . I wondered with great admiration.

John here records six characteristics of the woman by which we can identify the organisation she symbolises. **Firstly**, the woman is a whore or harlot. Many times in the O.T. the prophets likened Israel to a harlot, when Israel worshipped other gods and idols, etc. Hence the whore of Revelation must symbolise a similar company of idolatrous worshippers, though not natural Israel, since Israel in the last days was to become "sons of God" or Christians. Just as the true church of Christ is likened in **Rev. 19-8** to a spotless bride "*arrayed in fine linen, clean and white,*" so in contrast the gaudily arrayed harlot represents an idolatrous false church.

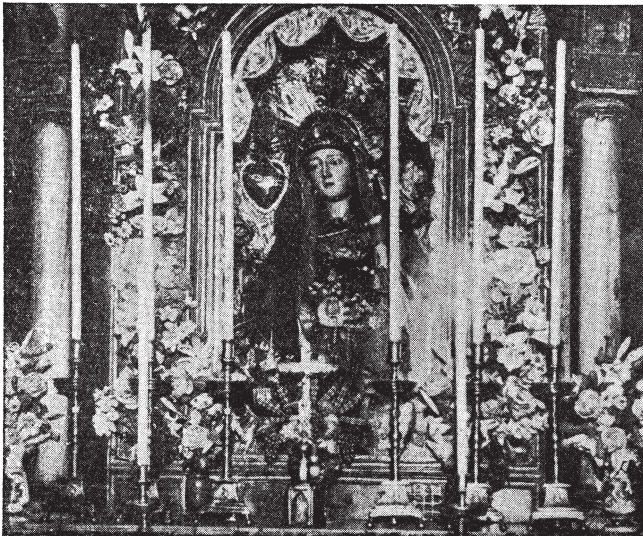
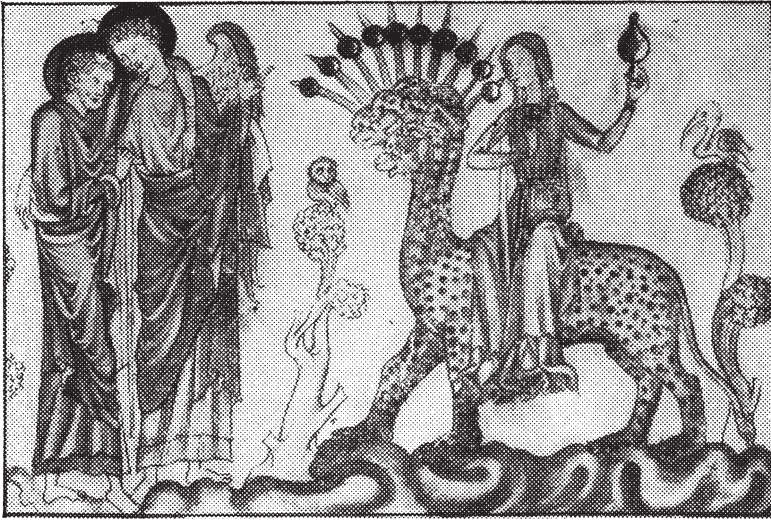
**Secondly**, the woman sat on and was supported by the

18. The woman . . . is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth.”

ten-horned beast. We read that this beast was full of the names of blasphemy which characteristic (along with the head and horns) clearly identifies him as the SAME beast of **Rev. 13** which we saw represented the confederation of Latin kingdoms under the Papacy. Hence the woman symbolises the ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH which was supported by the Papacy and the ten Latin kingdoms for 1260 years.

**Thirdly**, as to the woman's dress, "*purple and scarlet*" have always been the distinguishing colours of the R.C. clerical dress seen in ceremonial functions such as the Corpus Christi processions. The "*precious stones*" which adorn the altars, regalia and images of the Church of Rome also exactly fulfil this description of the woman. Readers who have visited Roman Catholic churches especially on the Continent and in the East with their numerous images of Mary and the Babe, etc., adorned with multitudes of priceless jewels, will verify the accuracy of this description.

**Fourthly**, as to her name, "*MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT . . .*" Just as in the O.T., literal Babylon on the Euphrates was the centre of idolatrous religions, so the "*whore*" is likewise an idolatrous religion in the last days, but on a far greater scale; (in Jeremiah 50-38 we read "*Babylon is the land of graven images, and they are mad upon their idols.*") Once more the Church of Rome exactly fulfils the description with her countless statues and dolls of Christ, Mary and divers saints, which are decorated with jewels and bowed to in worship. John noted that the name of the woman was "*MYSTERY Babylon,*" and so the fact that the Church of Rome has made Christian characters the subject of her idolatry has caused her system to be a mysterious one, so much so that millions have been deceived and still are by this counterfeit religion in the place of that true worship in the Holy Spirit which Christ said God desired. (**John 4-24**, "*God is a Spirit and they that worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and in truth.*") We read that John wondered with great "*astonishment*" (not admira-



Above:—An illustration on vellum in a Latin Bible in the British Museum showing the angel explaining to John the symbolism of the woman and the beast which carried her. Reproduced by kind permission of the Trustees.

Below:—A photograph of an image of Mary in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Jerusalem, bedecked with gold and precious jewels.

tion for there was nothing to admire in a harlot drunken with martyrs' blood!) symbolising the wonder that must have passed through the minds of millions of Christians that a professing Christian church should cruelly persecute God's choicest saints. John also saw that the woman was named "*THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.*" Just as in the O.T., Israel's idolatrous practices imitated from the heathen nations around were called "*abominations,*" likewise this verse is a reference to the creation of religious practices which would take away true worship from God. When the test of the scriptures is applied to the doctrines and practices of many churches descended from or separated from the Church of Rome, truly she is seen to have been the "*mother*" or originator of many "*abominations.*" It is also interesting to note that the Council of Trent (1545) required all Catholic priests to acknowledge as a profession of faith that "The Holy Catholic Apostolic Roman Church is the MOTHER and mistress of all churches."

**Fifthly**, John saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints and martyrs of Jesus. This proves that she represents an organisation which must have existed during the martyr period of church history, and was the actual cause of that martyrdom. What other organisation does history record **EXCEPT** the Church of Rome that has to its shame been the direct cause of the martyrdom of 50,000,000 Christian saints because they would not conform to her idolatry and unscriptural doctrines? Every country in Western Continental Europe records in its history how that church caused the martyrdom of tens of thousands of Christians.

**Sixthly**, in verse 18, John was told "*the woman is that great city which reigneth over the kings of the earth.*" In John's day what city reigned over the kings of the earth except Imperial ROME? Hence the woman is "ROME," a mark of identity which the ROMAN Catholic church, or the "Church of Rome" cannot possibly escape from. Also she is the only church which has taken its name from a city and from the very city which in John's day and throughout the Middle Ages did reign



over the kings of the earth. Also her name shows her intimate connection with the Latin nations, just as John saw her carried by the Latin “*beast*.”



A medal of Pope Leo XII., 1825, showing the Church of Rome as a woman reigning over the Kings of the earth.

The rest of **Rev. 17** interprets for us the symbolism of the “*beast*,” and shows the relations which would exist between the “*beast*” and the “*whore*.”

### THE SEVEN HEADS OF THE BEAST.

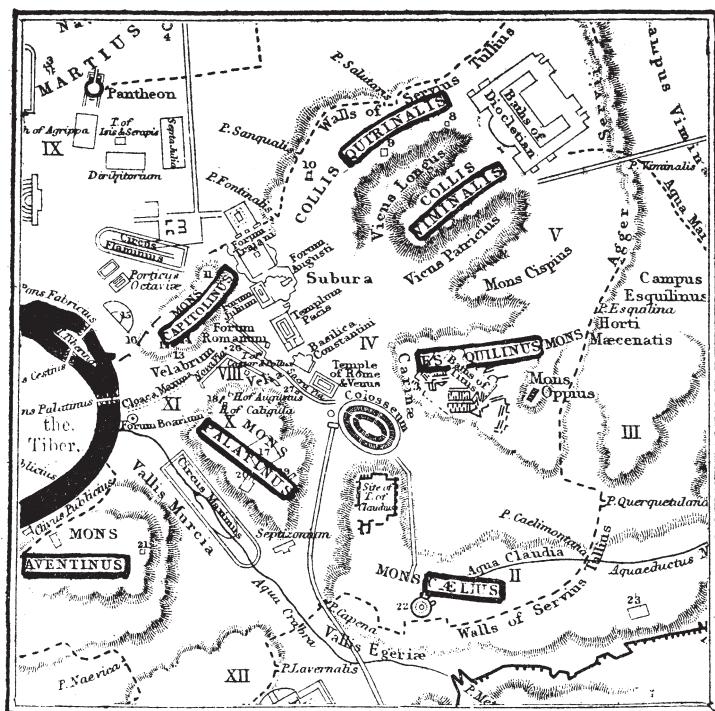
**Rev. 17-7 to 11.**

7. “And the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee the mystery of the woman, and of the beast that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns. Verse 8 tells us that there would be three periods in the history of the “*beast*” or Roman Empire. (1) “*The beast that was*,” (2) “*and is not*,” (3) “*and yet is*.” In other words the Roman Empire would exist in two stages with a period of destruction and reconstruction in between. True to this prophecy, we know that from John’s day to the fourth century Imperial Rome ruled civilisation; then came the barbarian flood which broke up the Empire and temporarily immersed it during the fifth century; then out of that “*sea*” arose the commonwealth of Papal Rome. See diagram, page 19.
8. The beast that thou sawest . . . was, and is not, and yet is.
9. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth.
10. 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.
11. And the beast that was, and is not, even he is (become) the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition.”

Verses 9, 10, 11, then interpret the symbolism of the “*seven heads*.” First of all they symbolise “*SEVEN MOUNTAINS on which the woman sitteth*.” Latin poets such as Ovid and Horace and all historians of Rome show how the city of Rome was famed for and distinguished by her seven hills known as the Palatine, Capitoline, Quirinal, Viminal, Esquilian, Coelian, and Aventine. The Romans took pride in the fact that their capital was built on the tops and slopes of the afore-named seven hills. As there is no other such renowned seven-hilled city in history, verse 9 proves beyond all argument that the “*woman*” symbolises the “*Church OF Rome*” since Rome was her origin, the residence of her Papal head, and often the meeting place of her Councils.

Verse 10 tells us that the seven heads also symbolise “*seven kings*,” (“*and they are seven kings*,” R.V.), that is seven different succeeding governing heads of the Roman earth. (This confirms our conclusion in interpreting **Rev. 12** that the crowns on the seven heads of the dragon indicated that they represented seven different kinds of government over the PAGAN Roman Empire.) John was told that in his day, 96 A.D., FIVE of the governments were already past history, the SIXTH head was then in power, while the SEVENTH and last “*dragon*” head, was still to come, but would rule only for a short space. Two well-known Roman historians, Livy and Tacitus, (the latter a contemporary of John) tell us that the first five forms of government Rome experienced were (1) Kings, (2) Consuls, (3) Dictators, (4) Decemvirs, (5) Military Tribunes. There can be no mistake about the sixth head since we are told it was that head ruling in John’s day which was the IMPERIAL CÆSARS. This latter point proves once and for all that the seven-headed “*dragon*” and “*beast*” of **Rev. 12** and **13** both symbolise the ROMAN EMPIRE, Pagan and Papal.

We now ask what form of government was represented by the seventh head which was to exist a short space and then receive a deadly wound? It must be a PAGAN head since it was on the “*dragon*.” This cuts out the Christian emperors from Constantine onwards. Also it must be located in Rome since the seven heads



Above:—A map of ancient Rome showing the sites and names of the famous “seven hills.” Below is shown a coin of Vespasian, 79 A.D., with Imperial Rome symbolised as a woman sitting on the seven hills.

symbolised seven-hilled Rome where each succeeding head or brain of the beast must be situated. In other words Rome must be the capital of the dragon's territory. This again cuts out the Christian emperors such as Constantine who in 313 A.D. moved the capital to the East where he built Constantinople.

It is easy to locate the seventh "head" in Roman history since in 284 A.D., DIOCLETIAN as a DESPOTIC emperor introduced an entirely new form of government in which the Senate, etc., were ignored. Also Diocletian created three other rulers who along with himself ruled over the Empire in four divisions, a unique government. Another point which proves conclusively that Diocletian and his associates from 284 to 313, constituted the seventh and last "head" of Pagan Rome, is that Diocletian was the last emperor to be deified, that is worshipped as a Pagan god by the Romans. The Cæsars took the title of *Pontifex Maximus*, that is, chief or high priest of the Roman priesthood, and were worshipped as gods. This practice ceased with the victory of Constantine in 313 A.D. We note that this seventh head thus ruled only 29 years, a "short space," at the end of which it received a deadly wound as we saw foretold in **Rev. 13-3**, and in the succeeding century as Paganism fell, the "dragon" was "cast out." From 313 onwards, Rome ceased to be the Imperial city. The Eastern Greek nations separated themselves to become the "*Eastern Roman Empire*," and finally Rome itself along with Western Europe fell to the barbarians. Thus in the fourth and fifth centuries A.D., the Roman earth became "*the beast that is not*."

However, the deadly wound was to be healed and the seventh head grow again to rule the ten kingdoms of the "beast" of **Rev. 13**. Thus we read in **Rev. 17-11** "*the beast that was and is not, is become the EIGHTH (head), and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition*." In other words the restored head of the ten-horned beast of **Rev. 13** would be the eighth succeeding government over the Roman earth, or from another point of view the seventh head grown again.

We saw in discussing **Rev. 13** how that in the fifth and sixth centuries A.D., the Bishops of Rome, by the utterance of "*great things and blasphemies*" which the ignorant peoples of Europe believed, rose into power like the Cæsars of old. This was the meaning of the angel's statement in verse 11 that the eighth head is "*of the seven,*" that is, similar to, or "the same class as." How truly were the Popes the continuation of the Pagan Cæsars. The Popes ruled from seven-hilled Rome. They took the very same title *Pontifex Maximus* as shown on their medals, and were worshipped as gods exactly as the Cæsars. They made war against the Christians with the same tortures and cruelty that the Cæsars had employed. Verse 11 tells us that this last form of Imperial rule will be the one existing at the end of the times of the Gentiles, and will thus be the one destroyed at Christ's second advent, ". . . and goeth into *perdition.*" This forever forbids any new revival of the Roman Empire as some people are prophesying, since that would mean another and NINTH "*head*" which is not shown in Revelation. Also there is no time left for such an amazing political move for we are living in the days of the division, internal collapse and destruction of the Roman earth, NOT its power.

## THE TEN HORNS OF THE BEAST.

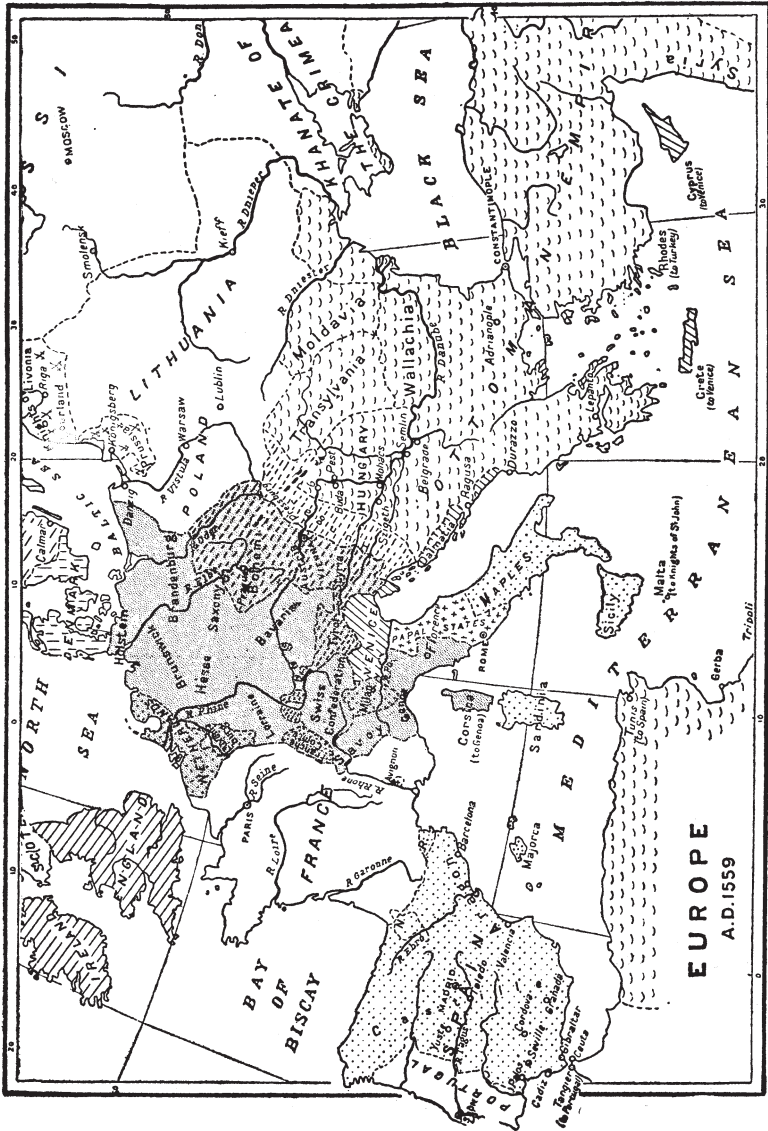
### Rev. 17-12 to 17.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>12. "And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, which have received no kingdom as yet; but receive power as kings <b>ONE HOUR (?)</b> with the beast.</p> <p>13. These have one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.</p> <p>14. These shall make war with the Lamb . . . and they that are with Him are called, faithful . . . and the Lamb shall overcome them.</p> <p>16. And the ten horns . . . shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate</p> | <p>These verses then interpret the symbolism of the ten horns seen on the "<i>dragon,</i>" and then crowned on the "<i>beast.</i>" They are TEN KINGS who had received no independent kingdoms in John's day, but were to receive power as kings "<i>one hour with the beast.</i>" In fulfilment of this, we saw in <b>Rev. 13</b> that the ten horns on the beast wore CROWNS. In <b>Rev. 13-5</b> however, the beast was to have power "42</p> |
|---|--|

- and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.
17. For God hath put it in their hearts . . . to give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled.”
- months*” or 1260 years on a scale of one year for a prophetic day. Thus it seems the translation in the A.V., “*one hour*,” cannot be correct. The original Greek gives us the solution. The Greek words “*mia hora*” translated “*one hour*” can quite correctly be translated “*ONE and the same SEASON*,” that is the ten horns received power as kings for ONE AND THE SAME TIME as the beast, that is, for 1260 years. (For example, **Phil. 2-2**, “*of ONE mind*” could be translated “*of ONE AND THE SAME mind*.”) Hence we should expect that at the rise of the Papal head of the Roman earth there would also arise ten independent kingdoms who would share the government of the Roman earth throughout the 1260 years of Papal dominion.

The question now comes did the ten kingdoms arise, and where should we locate them throughout the Middle Ages, on the whole of the prophetic earth from Spain to Mesopotamia, or only in the lands peculiar to Rome, that is Western Continental Europe? In **Dan. 7** we read where God showed the prophet in a vision that during Israel’s punishment there would be four succeeding Gentile Empires symbolised by “*four beasts*.” In verse 19, Daniel then said, “*I would know the truth of the fourth beast and of the TEN HORNS which were in his head*.” In verse 23, Daniel was told “*the fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom upon earth . . . and SHALL DEVOUR THE WHOLE EARTH . . .*” Now the ten horns obviously were on the fourth beast BEFORE it devoured the lands of the other three beasts—Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece. Hence the ten kingdoms are to be found only on the earth peculiar to Rome—that is, Western Europe. This is confirmed by **Rev. 12** where the ten-horned “*dragon*” or Pagan Rome, had its ten horns (or potential kingdoms) BEFORE it conquered the Eastern third of the prophetic earth about 63 B.C.

Then again the ten horns all grew out of the seven heads of the fourth beast, and as these seven heads sym-



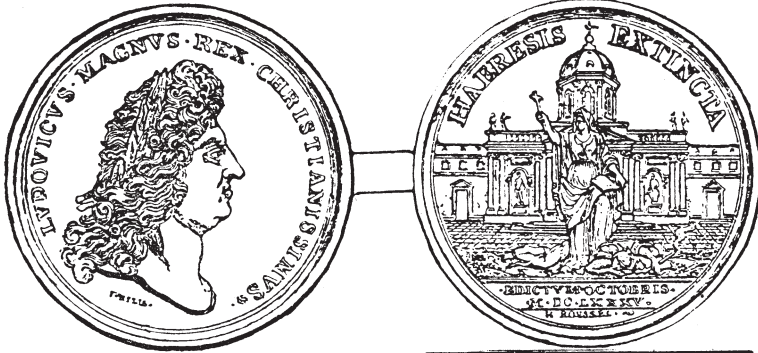
Reproduced (without alteration) from "The Renaissance and the Reformation" by E. M. Tanner, Oxford University Press.

bolised seven-hilled Rome, the ten horns must all have had a common connection with the city of Rome. Now when Constantine defeated the Pagan emperors, he deserted Rome and founded Constantinople as the Imperial city in the East. This resulted in the former Babylonian, Medo-Persian and Greek lands separating from seven-hilled Rome to form the "*Eastern Roman Empire*." Thus again we see that none of the Eastern nations could be among the ten horns. By the seventh century A.D., seven-hilled Rome as the spiritual capital ruled over ONLY the lands of the original Roman earth, that is Western Europe. Hence THERE must be found the ten kingdoms linked up with the revived seventh head of the Roman beast. Also the Eastern lands never gained their independence to become kingdoms, since they finally became the Ottoman Empire. See the map of Europe in 1559 reproduced on page 43.

We find that during the sixth century A.D., which witnessed the rapid rise of the Papacy, there arose the following ten kingdoms in the Roman earth proper:—1, 2, 3, the Franks of central France, the Allemans of Eastern France, the Burgundians of S.E. France. 4, 5, 6, the Visigoths and Vandals of Spain, the Sueves of Portugal. 7, 8, 9, 10, the Goths, Lombards, Heruli and Huns in Italy. The coins of their kings wearing the Royal diadem can be seen in the British Museum. It is very wonderful to see that all through the 1260 years of Papal dominion there were (on the average) ten Latin Kingdoms. It is difficult to identify all the ten by name since the boundaries varied throughout the 1260 years, but the following list can be confirmed from any text book on European history. Notice the correspondence between the early Roman-Gothic kingdoms and the Latin kingdoms of the Middle Ages:—1, 2, 3, France, the Netherlands, Switzerland. 4, 5, 6, Aragon, Castile, Portugal. 7, 8, 9, 10, were in Italy under various names such as Naples, Venice, Savoy and Milan. (NOTE:—The greater part of Germany was outside the Roman Empire, and is Teutonic, not Latin.)

In confirmation of the above, see the map of Europe in 1559 reproduced from an ordinary history book





Pope shutting Holy Door.



Pope Pius XI and King Alfonso XIII

Evidence of how the Latin kings supported their Papal head. A medal of Louis XIV., king of France 1685, showing the war on the Protestants (Heresy Extinguished) by the Church of Rome in the background. Below, the stamps of Italy and Spain demonstrate their support of the Papacy.

which quite plainly shows exactly ten nations in the Roman earth proper. Note how the Turkish Empire covered the territories of the former Babylonian, Medo-Persian and Grecian Empires leaving only the original Roman earth in which to locate the ten Latin kingdoms. Note also the Papal States around Rome constituting the "seat" of the "beast."

Since the ending of the 1260 years' of Papal power, from 1793 onwards, practically all the kingdoms have become Republics and the former Papal commonwealth of ten kingdoms reduced in number by the union of Italy in 1861. The remains of the Latin kingdoms are seen to-day in France, Belgium, Switzerland, Spain (2) Portugal, and Italy (4).

The angel went on to tell John further characteristics of these ten kingdoms in that they were to "have

*one mind, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast.*" In fulfilment we find that during the seventh century A.D., all the Roman-Gothic kings were converted to Roman Catholicism and acknowledged the Pope as their spiritual head. As the Popes taught that spiritual things were so much higher than the earthly, and that kings ought to bend the neck to their spiritual head, so we read in history how that various kings in Europe actually gave their kingdoms to the Pope to be re-crowned by him and to receive their kingdoms back from him. Also they were continually required to take the oath of allegiance to the Pope, and to such an extent did they give their power to the Papacy that the latter uncrowned and crowned kings at its pleasure.

As a result of such submission, the kings of Europe were forced to carry out the Papal commands, to use their armies to make war against the saints. We have already commented on how the kings of France, Spain and Italy, repeatedly sent their armies to butcher whole towns and villages of Protestant Waldenses, Huguenots, and Reformers. This further characteristic of the ten kings is described in verse 14—"*they shall make war with the Lamb . . . and they that are with Him are called, chosen and faithful.*"

At the end of their 1260 years' collaboration with the Papacy the ten kingdoms were to "*hate the whore, and make her desolate . . . eat her flesh and burn her with fire.*" This is a prophecy that the nations of the Latin world would finally turn on the church they had so long carried and sustained, and consume her wealth. As we apply this prophecy to the test of history we find that in the exact 1260th year of the Papal power, 1793, France in the Revolution destroyed a large part of "*Babylon*" by seizing her resources, churches, schools, trust lands, colleges, monasteries, nunneries, hoarded gold and jewels. Other European nations have since confiscated the wealth of the church they had supported, and the very process is going on before our eyes in Spain, Germany, Austria, Czecho-Slovakia and Poland.

### **IS BRITAIN ONE OF THE TEN HORNS?**

In conclusion let us discuss that most important question whether Britain is one of the ten horns of the

beast, that is, one of the ten kingdoms of the Latin earth. The answer to this question decides whether Britain is Israel or Gentile. Moreover, if Britain is one of the ten Latin kingdoms, the British Commonwealth is doomed to pass away along with those kingdoms to make way for the kingdom of Israel, since the “*times of the Gentiles*” are now at their end.

Firstly, England was the last territory to be added to the Roman Empire after a forty years’ war with the Britons from 43 to 83 A.D. Long BEFORE that time, the Roman “*dragon*” had its “*ten horns*” or potential kingdoms (as already explained) which must therefore be located in Continental Europe.

Secondly, we saw in **Rev. 13** that the ten kingdoms were to arise out of the Gothic flood, which meant that they would be Roman-Gothic kingdoms. Now when the Goths overran Western Europe, the Romans were forced to evacuate England ENTIRELY about 410 A.D., in order to defend their Continental provinces. How then could England be one of the ten Latin kingdoms if England lost all its Roman inhabitants? Then again, a totally new race who NEVER formed part of the Roman Empire came into England in the succeeding centuries as the Angles, and Saxons, etc. How then possibly could Anglo-Saxon England be one of the ten kingdoms of the Roman Beast?

Thirdly, we saw in **Rev. 17-13** that “*the ten kings shall give their power and strength unto the beast,*” that is to the “*eighth head*” which was the Papacy. As regards England, however, the Papacy never even claimed any such submission until William the Conqueror, 1066, and from then onwards there was continual WAR (not submission) between the Papacy and England over the matter of Papal control. Out of thirty-nine kings of England from William I. to King George VI., ONLY THREE sovereigns yielded to the Papacy—King John, Henry VII., and Mary Tudor, and in every case the nation rebelled. When John miserably gave his crown to the Pope he was forced by the people to sign the Magna Charta the first provision of which ran as follows, “*That the Church of England be free, and hold her rights entire, and her liberties inviolate.*” Henry VII., 1452,

allowed the Papal Legate to control the Church with the result that utter corruption set in, such as indulgences for sin, worship of images and relics. The resulting indignation of the people banished Romanism from England in the Reformation under his son Henry VIII. Then came Mary Tudor who submitted to the Pope in 1553 and caused the burning alive of over three hundred Protestants, a little taste of the “*war against the saints*” by the “*beast.*” The result was the further banishment of Romanism from England under Elizabeth and her successors. Thus history testifies that the Papacy was always the enemy of England and her Church; how then could England possibly be one of the ten Latin kings who were to give their power to the Papal head?



A medal of Pope Julius III. (1550) issued as a curse on Protestant England and Edward VI. . . . “The race and Kingdom which will not serve you (the Pope) will perish.”

Finally, the Romans never conquered Scotland, Ireland, India, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa, or the U.S.A., not one of which was thus ever even part of the Roman Empire. How then could these Anglo-Saxon nations be one of the ten Roman kingdoms? The British Commonwealth which covers one quarter of the earth’s surface could put all Latin Europe twice over into either Canada or Australia, and is not one of the ten Latin kingdoms but the Ephraim-Israel “*Company of Nations,*” just as the “*Great People*” of the U.S.A. are Manasseh-Israel.

## REVELATION 14.

As readers study this chapter, they will wonder why it does not fit in better than it does with the general historical sequence maintained in the other chapters of Revelation. Verse 12 gives us the explanation by showing that the purpose of this chapter was to inspire the martyrs with patience—“*Here is the patience of the saints.*” Hence the aim of the five short visions in **Rev. 14** was to encourage particularly the martyrs of Papal Rome, just as the apparent intrusion of **Rev. 7** in part I. was to inspire the martyrs of Pagan Rome. This is further confirmed by the fact that the first vision of **Rev. 14** is very similar to the vision in **Rev. 7**.

### VISION I.

1. “And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an 144,000, having his Father’s name written on their foreheads.
  2. And I heard the voice of harpers:
  3. And they sung as it were a new song . . . and no man could learn that song but the 144,000 which were redeemed from the earth.
  4. These . . . are virgins . . . which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the first-fruits unto God and to the Lamb.”
- The first vision as in verses 1 to 5, is very similar to the vision in **Rev. 7** which showed the same 144,000 being sealed with the Spirit, representing the formation of the “*church*” or “*body of Christ*” during the church age. **Rev. 14** then shows them all reigning with Christ. In verses 2 and 3 John tells how again he heard harpers singing the new song of redemption similar to the one in **Rev. 5-9** except that now the benefits of that redemption have been gained by the 144,000 who alone out of all mankind are able to learn the song. Verse 4 explains this unique experience—“*for they are virgins*”—symbolising the purity of sins forgiven through Christ’s death on their behalf. Also “*they were redeemed from among men, being the first-fruits unto God and to the Lamb.*” This means that they have been resurrected and are the first-fruits of the sowing of the seed of the Gospel in the church age. Now we can see the significance of their standing with Christ on Mount Sion. In the O.T., Sion was the centre

of Israel's government, and so the 144,000 are represented to John as reigning as kings with Christ over Israel and all nations. This vision is not yet fulfilled since Christ has not yet returned, nor the first resurrection taken place. The vision was obviously given to John to inspire the Protestants martyred by Papal Rome, that some day they would be redeemed from death, and reign with the Christ for Whose testimony they had died. John noticed that on their foreheads was written the Father's name which is in contrast to the worshippers of the "beast" who have the "mark of the beast." The 144,000 are thus sons of God who have been sealed with the Holy Spirit during the church age and who when resurrected will form Christ's executive body.

## VISION II.

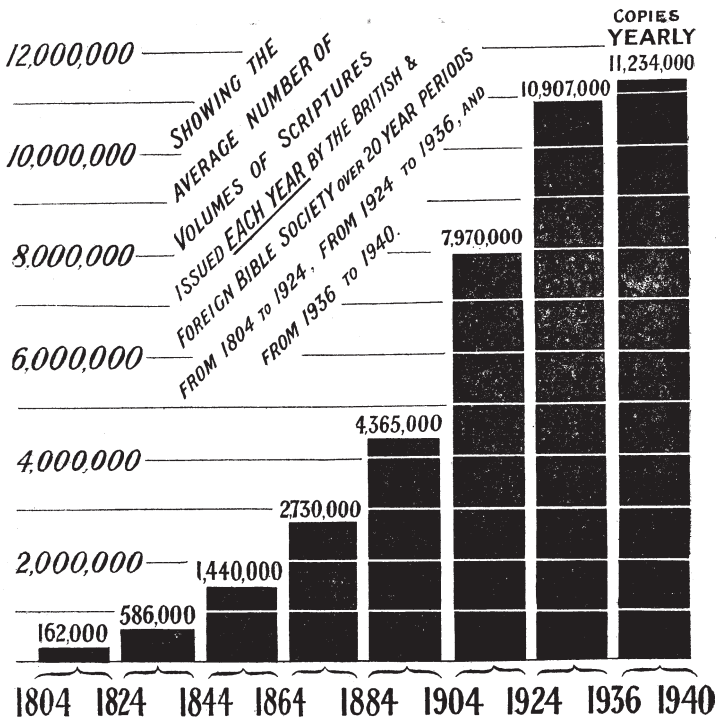
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>6. "And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven having the everlasting gospel to preach to them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and tongue,</p> | <p>These verses record John's second vision of inspiration in which he saw an angel flying across the sky bearing the gospel to all nations, and the warning to worship God as the "hour" or "season" of His judgment had come. We should expect the fulfillment of this prophecy during the ending of the "times of the Gentiles," that is from 1780 to the end of the age. It will be seen as we study <b>Rev. 15</b> how this is the "season" of God's judgments on Gentile nations and systems.</p>   |
| <p>7. Saying with a loud voice, Fear God . . . for the hour of His judgment is come; and worship Him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea."</p>                     | <p>As a result of the evangelical revivals which swept Britain and the U.S.A. during the 18th and 19th centuries, the attention of Christians was directed to these very verses in Revelation where they saw that all nations and tongues must receive the Gospel. It was also seen that in <b>Matt. 24-14</b> Christ Himself had quoted this worldwide teaching of the Gospel as a sign of His second advent—"And this gospel of the Kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations, and then shall the end come." Realising that Christ would not return till all nations had been given the testimony of the Gospel, Christians in Britain and America felt a great urge to send out missionaries with the Word of God to</p> |

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every nation. This resulted in the rise of numerous missionary and Bible societies such as the Baptist M.S. (1792), the London M.S. (1795), the Wesleyan M.S. (1796), and the Church M.S. (1800), etc., whose activities have exactly fulfilled the above vision.

As missionaries penetrated new fields of labour in all quarters of the earth, the need grew for the printed Bible in hundreds of languages. The output of the largest Bible Societies in volumes of scripture is as follows:—

<i>Bible Society</i>	<i>Founded</i>	<i>Production</i>	<i>Yearly Average 1928-1940</i>
Brit. & F. B. S.	1804	520,000,000	11,000,000
American B. S.	1816	300,000,000	7,000,000
Nat. B. S. of Scot.	1861	140,000,000	4,000,000
Hibernian B. S.	1806	8,000,000	100,000
Totals		968,000,000	22,000,000



The amazing growth in the distribution of the scriptures by the *British and Foreign Bible Society* is here demonstrated in a graph, while the striking increase in the number of languages in which the scriptures are now printed by Anglo-Saxon Bible Societies is as follows:—

Year	Number of languages.
1804	72     "
1900	567   "
1928	856   "
1940	1000  "

The fact that it has been and still is the unique function of our race to preach the Gospel and carry the printed Bible to all nations, even to Continental Europe is an unanswerable proof of its Israel identity.

We read in verse 7 that the angel gave a warning to all nations, (1) to fear God because the time of judgment was at hand, and (2) to worship God the Creator. This has been remarkably fulfilled in that the majority of missionaries are believers in the second advent of Christ and so have taught the approach of the end of the age and its judgments. Also missionaries everywhere have had to turn the hearts of the heathen from worship of gods of wood and stone to the living God, the Creator of heaven and earth, thus literally fulfilling verse 7. We can realise how the record of this vision must have inspired the remnant of Christ's faithful followers in the midst of Roman Catholic darkness to continue faithful to the Gospel which they knew would some day be preached to all nations.

### VISION III.

8. "And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen . . . that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine . . . of her fornication." This verse records John's third vision in which he heard the solemn announcement that "*Babylon*" was fallen because she had deceived the nations with her idolatry. The martyrs of the Middle Ages knew that the Church of Rome was the "*Babylon*" of the Apocalypse, and so they were comforted and encouraged in their suffering by the above sure testimony of scripture that the system which tor-



tured them was due to fall under the avenging judgment of God. As **Rev. 18** is wholly devoted to this final destruction of Roman Catholicism, the fulfilment of the above vision will be seen in our interpretation of **Rev. 18**.

#### VISION IV.

9. "And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image and receive his mark . . .

10. The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God."

God. This warning is particularly necessary in these days when Romanism is making its final effort in Anglo-Saxon-Israel lands.

12. "Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

13. And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them."

vain. Nor were the lives of the martyrs given in vain since as we know their brave testimony led to the fall of Pagan Rome, and then to the initial fall of Papal Rome.

#### VISION V.

14. "And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of Man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle.

15. And another angel came . . . crying in a loud voice to Him that sat on the

These verses record the fourth special vision which is in the form of a warning to those who at this time (the end of the age) worship the beast and his image and receive his mark. They shall receive the fiery judgment of

These verses explain the purpose of the special series of visions in **Rev. 14**—to give patience and courage to the suffering saints who would follow the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus even to martyrdom. The promise is made that those who thus died in the Lord will be blessed, and that their testimony would not be in

Verses 14 to 20 then record the last special vision in which John saw two harvest scenes. Verses 14 to 16 show the Son of Man wearing a crown and reaping the earth. This is plainly a reference to the second ad-

cloud, 'Thrust in thy sickle and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe.'

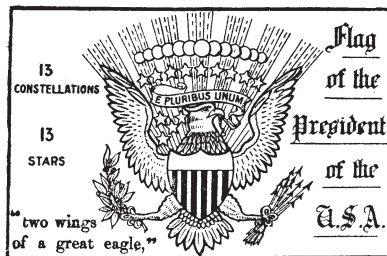
16. And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle . . . and the earth was reaped.
17. And another angel came out of the temple . . . he also having a sharp sickle.
18. And another angel . . . which had power over fire cried . . . 'Thrust in thy sharp sickle, and gather . . . the vine of the earth for her grapes are fully ripe.'
19. And the angel thrust in his sickle into the earth, and gathered the vine . . . and cast it into the great wine press of the wrath of God."

the judgment of the nations when Michael and his angels will gather the wicked at the second advent and destroy them by fire. In a number of scriptures we read how Christ comes in flaming fire "*taking vengeance on them that know not God and obey not the gospel.*"

We can readily see how the last vision must have inspired the martyrs for they saw that their Saviour would some day return as the conquering King to resurrect His own, while the wicked would be destroyed from off the earth by the righteous judgment of God.

vent of Christ the coming King of Israel, and the first resurrection at His command of "*them that are Christ's at His coming.*" (I. Cor. 15-23.) These will be the first-fruits of His death on Calvary and of His high-priestly ministry in heaven. Many scriptures show how the executive body of Christ will be gathered to meet their head at His second advent from thence to reign with Him as kings and priests over the earth.

Verses 17 to 20 then describe another angel who reaps the earth, but this time not to gather into the barns, as it were, but to burn with fire. This is a reference to



(To illustrate pages 16 and 64.)

## REVELATION 15.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1. "And I saw another sign in heaven . . . seven angels having the seven last plagues; for in them is filled up the wrath of God.</p> <p>2. And I saw as it were a sea of glass mingled with fire: and them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark . . . stand on (or by) the sea of glass, having the haros of God.</p> <p>3. And they sing the song of Moses the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, Great and marvelous are thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.</p> <p>4. Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? . . . for all nations shall come and worship before thee; for thy judgments are made manifest."</p> | <p>As four Gentile Empires had been granted by God dominion in the civilised world for the 2520 years of Israel's punishment, these judgment plagues (which as we shall see in <b>Rev. 16</b> fall on the nations of the "<i>fourth beast</i>") could not be poured out until the "<i>times of the Gentiles</i>" began to cease, that is, from 1780 onwards. Also they could not be poured out until the "<i>beast</i>" under his last and eighth head had been in power "<i>forty-two months</i>" or 1260 years, that is not before 1793 dating the initial rise of the Papacy from Justinian's decree in 533 A.D. Thus we locate the approximate time for the commencement of the</p> |
|--|---|

outpouring of the seven plagues of God's judgments as 1780-93. Now we are told in verse 1 that they are the "*last*," and that in them God fully executes His judgment on the nations. Hence the plagues must cover the whole period of the ending of the times of the Gentiles, from 1780-93 to the end of the age and the second advent of Christ, (parallel with the sounding of the seventh trumpet, **Rev. 11-15**.)

In this same vision John also saw a peculiar people victorious over the "*beast*," etc., and singing songs of praise to God for His deliverance apparently from the vials of wrath being poured out on the nations of the "*beast*" or Continental Europe.

We ask what people were represented by "*them that had gotten the victory over the beast, etc.*" They were not the martyrs of Papal Rome as we might at first think, because, as we saw in **Rev. 13-7**, "*the beast made war with the saints, and overcame them,*" whereas these

people in **Rev. 15** were victors OVER the “*beast*.” Nor were they the “*church*” resurrected at Christ’s second advent, since they were ONLY the victors over the beast, and NOT the complete “*church*” out of the whole Christian dispensation. Also that event is shown as still future in verse 4, “*for all nations SHALL come and worship before thee, etc.*” The victors must be servants of God who have separated from the Papacy, and who are alive at the time of the judgments, and who though spectators are outside the sphere of judgment for which they give thanks to God.

The reader will soon see that these verses in **Rev. 15** portray the experiences of PROTESTANT BRITAIN during the upheaval of the French Revolution. By the eighteenth century the effect of the Reformation had been largely lost in Continental Europe. Through the Jesuits, the Church of Rome regained much of her influence, and hence the reason for the judgment on the Latin nations described in the vials of **Rev. 16**. In contrast, the Reformation was widespread and permanent in England, Scotland and Scandinavia where Papal interference was entirely rejected. The Crown of England was restored to its lawful position of head of the Church of England, and the illegal encroachment of the Papacy forever banished. The Churches of England and Scotland also refused to bow to the Papal “*image*” by rejecting the edicts of the Papal Councils, and substituting their own Protestant articles of belief based entirely on the scriptures. The “*mark of the beast*” was banished by the total rejection of Latin from the Church services by the law of England. The Prayer-book and Bible were printed in English instead of Latin, and so on.

When the Papacy saw that it was impossible to regain the people, the Jesuits endeavoured to win back the kings of Britain and so through them, the people. As a result of this interference from Rome, Parliament passed the *Test Act* in 1673 making all government officers take the oath of allegiance to the King, partake of Communion in the Church of England, and deny the doctrine of transubstantiation. Also in 1678 there was passed the *Parliamentary Test* requiring that all M.P.’s further repudiate the worship of the Virgin Mary, and

the sacrifice of the Mass. The more the Papacy strove to restore Britain to Roman Catholicism the greater the separation from Romanism which took place. Finally, by 1688, James II. had so allowed the Pope to influence him that he lost his throne which was offered to William, Prince of Orange. Then came the completion of the victory over the “*beast*,” etc., in the *Act of Settlement* of 1689 which forever determined that the King of Great Britain must be a Protestant. An extract is as follows:

“. . . whereas it hath been found by experience that it is inconsistent with the safety of this Protestant kingdom to be governed by a Popish prince . . . the said Lords, Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons do further pray that it be enacted that all and every person that shall hold communion with the see or Church of Rome, or shall profess the Popish religion, shall be excluded, and be forever incapable to inherit, possess, or enjoy the crown and government of this realm and the dominions thereunto belonging.”

Ever since, at their coronation, Britain’s kings have been required to take the Oath that they would defend the Protestant faith and maintain the *Act of Settlement*.

\* \* \* \* \*

We next ask what was symbolised by the “*sea of glass mingled with fire*.” John apparently saw a volcanic eruption spreading its sea of lava mingled with hot ashes over the Latin Roman earth. According to the song of the victors in verse 4, they acknowledged that certain judgments of God were just, and that as a result of those judgments all nations would in time come to worship God. (The judgments there referred to are those on the Papal nations as described in detail in **Rev. 16.**) Thus it seems as if John and the victors saw these judgments in the distance like a sea of lava. We read that the victors stood “*on*” the sea; however, the Greek word “*epi*” also means “*alongside*” which is a more suitable rendering here—the victors stood “*ALONGSIDE the sea of glass*.” Protestant interpreters are agreed that the sea of volcanic eruption symbolised the upheaval of the French Revolution which spread over the Continent with awful destruction. True to the picture, Britain stood alongside that eruption and acknowledged it to be the judgment of God on Papal Europe. At the same time Britain was miraculously protected from the eruption and was

able to glorify and praise God for her deliverance as Israel did of old, thus singing the "*song of Moses.*"

Let us now apply this next test of the identity of the victors over the "*beast,*" that is, whether the people of Britain sang the "*song of Moses and the song of the Lamb.*" There were actually two songs of Moses, one recorded in **Exodus 15**, and the other in **Deut. 32**. We conclude that both songs will be applicable in **Rev. 15** since neither one nor the other is definitely mentioned.

### THE FIRST SONG OF MOSES. Exodus 15.

As to the first song, readers will be familiar with the thrilling story of Israel's escape from slavery in Egypt. Although God forced the Egyptians to let Israel go, Pharaoh then pursued them. With the Red Sea before them and the Egyptians behind, the Israelites were faced with destruction; then God miraculously divided the sea for Israel to go across on dry land, and the Egyptians endeavouring to follow were destroyed by the same sea. When Israel reached the other side, **Exodus 15-9, 10**, records how that in the joy of their deliverance, and the destruction of their enemies "*then, sang Moses and the children of Israel this song . . . 'the enemy said, I will pursue, I will destroy them . . . thou, O Lord, didst blow with thy wind, the sea covered them: they sank as lead in the mighty waters.'*"

It can easily be shown how this experience of Divine deliverance was repeated many times during the history of Britain's "*victory over the beast*" or separation from the Papacy during the Reformation and onward. **Rev. 11-8** tells us that "*Babylon*" (or the Church of Rome) would be called "*spiritually Egypt*" and true to that prophecy the Reformers used to refer to the Papal Church as "*Egypt.*" The idolatry of the Church of Rome and her enforcement of it, made her a task master such as idolatrous Egypt was to Israel before the Exodus. Thus England's separation from Rome was like a spiritual Exodus from Egypt, and just as the Egyptians pursued the Israelites to destroy them, so we know from history how the Pope and Spain launched the "*Invincible*" Armada against an almost defenceless England. Facing another Red Sea experience England was delivered by

God Whose winds blew the Armada out of her course and smashed it to pieces on the rocky coasts. In acknowledgment of the Providence of God, numerous medals were struck illustrating the deliverance and with the words inscribed "*He blew with His winds and they were scattered,*" which are almost the identical words of the Red Sea song of Moses. Also on the medals was reproduced in Hebrew the name "*Jehovah*" which only Israel could use as it represented the peculiar relationship between God and His people and included in it all His great promises of protection and blessing. Thus England in the above experience sang the song of Moses both literally and metaphorically in the rejoicing and thanksgiving for her deliverance in 1588.



One of the Armada medals. On one side, the Spanish fleet is shown being dispersed by the winds of God. The inscription around is, "*He blew with His winds, and they were scattered.*" On the other side, Christian Israel is shown on a rock in the sea (the stone kingdom in the appointed place) and the inscription around is, "*I am assailed but unshaken.*"

With the complete victory of Britain over the "*beast,*" etc., in the establishment of the Protestant succession to her throne, there followed in the next century the last mighty endeavour of the Papal nations to conquer England, in the Napoleonic wars. With almost the whole of Continental Europe at his command, Napoleon repeatedly made plans to cross the Channel, and each

time was foiled, no doubt, through the providence of God. The period 1789 to 1815 was one in which the Continent seemed to be immersed continually in a sea of molten lava and fire. Across the Channel, England recognised the terrible warfare and destruction as the judgment of God on Catholic Europe, and was conscious that her own protection and deliverance was due to the blessing of God upon her.

### **THE SECOND SONG OF MOSES. Deut. 32.**

We shall find that this was fulfilled in Britain's experience just as remarkably as the first. **Deut. 32** records the song sung as Israel was about to enter Palestine after the Exodus and wilderness journey, 1446 B.C. It is in the form of a prophetic survey of Israel's future experiences for 3,500 years, including her idolatry, dispersion, redemption, and return to God. Owing to limited space, only verses 7, 8, 9, and 4, 43, are here commented upon to demonstrate how they were sung in Britain's experience.

#### **Deut. 32-7, 8, 9.**

7. "Remembering the days of old . . . (8) When the most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when He separated the sons of Adam, He set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel. (9) For the Lord's portion is His people; Jacob is the lot of His inheritance."

When the Papacy was at the height of its power, in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, it parcelled out the New World of America among the Latin nations as if it was God the Creator. It seemed as if Spain and France were to become mighty empires, whereas the scriptures had said there would be ONLY FOUR Gentile empires during Israel's punishment. Then came the amazing and miraculous expansion of England. Victory after victory of her navies and armies often against ridiculous odds which represented nothing less than the protection of Jehovah, led to the defeat of the colonial aims of the Latin nations. At the end of the eighteenth century, Spain had lost her West Indian possessions while her South American colonies revolted from her. France was defeated in both India and Canada by the victories of Clive at Plassey, 1757, and Wolfe at Quebec, 1759. Although a French explorer discovered Australia first, it



became British. The French were beaten to New Zealand by a British frigate only one day before the French arrived.

In the fall of the colonial enterprise of the Papal nations, it was demonstrated that God had already determined the bounds of those nations and that He had set aside certain lands for His people Israel. At this very time was not Israel to become a "*Company of Nations*" and a "*Great People*." Thus Britain and her armies, navies, merchants, colonists and missionaries all realised that the colonial territories came into their possession by the providence of God, and that they were "*His servant nation*," the "*Lord's portion*" of the earth, "*Jacob the lot of his inheritance*." It can be easily understood how the pulpits and press of Britain resounded with the above portion of Moses' second song.

The theme of **Deut. 32-4, 43** is repeated almost word for word in **Rev. 15-3, 4** indicating for certain that this portion of Moses' song would be sung.

**Deut. 32-4, 43.**

4. "His work is perfect: for all His ways are JUDGMENT: a God of truth and without iniquity, JUST and right is He.
43. REJOICE, O YE NATIONS, WITH HIS PEOPLE: for He will avenge the blood of His servants, and will render vengeance to His adversaries, and will be merciful unto His land, and to His people."

**Rev. 15-3, 4.**

3. "And they sang the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, 'Great and marvellous are thy works Lord God Almighty, JUST and true are thy ways, thou King of saints.
4. Who shall not fear thee, O Lord, and glorify thy name? for only thou art holy: for ALL NATIONS SHALL COME AND WORSHIP BEFORE THEE: for thy JUDGMENTS are made manifest.'"

We see here a conviction (1) that a just God was directing the destiny of the nations; (2) that God would judge His enemies; (3) and bless His people and His land; (4) that finally all nations would worship God and come into blessing. It can be demonstrated how that during the Napoleonic wars and in the succeeding generation, Britain's statesmen, church leaders, historians and poets all testified that the whole nation was very much alive to the above four points. As to her statesmen, in

1813 through the efforts of that great Christian leader, William Wilberforce, the House of Commons pledged itself to promote and support the evangelisation of the heathen. Thus the Government of Britain officially extended to the nations the call to share the joy of the Gospel as foretold above "*Rejoice, O ye nations, with His people.*"

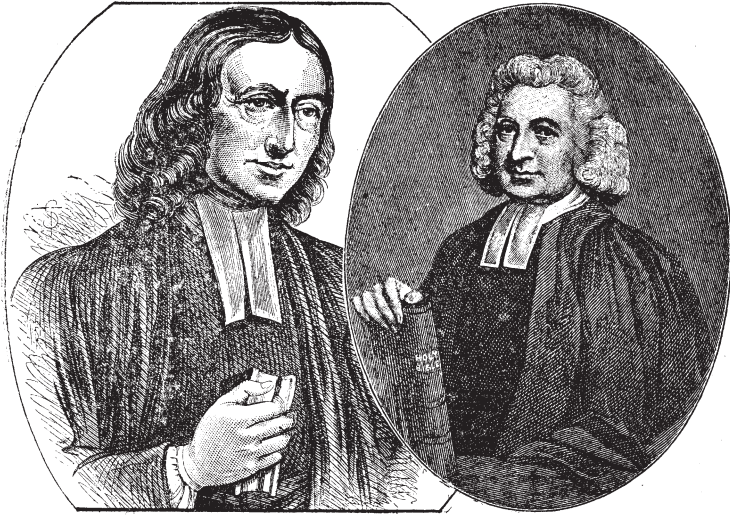
As to Britain's spiritual leaders, here is a quotation from Edward Irving, the great evangelist of England, whose sermons and writings drew tens of thousands to Christ, and whose audiences numbered anything from 6,000 to 12,000. In 1825 he spoke in London on the significant subject "*Babylon and Infidelity Foredoomed of God*" proving from Revelation that "*since 1793 God's wrath was indeed poured out . . . in all that is past the Lord hath had particular respect to us as a nation, and sealed us, because as a nation, we have cast off the Pope and established the supremacy of Christ in our churches.*" Irving was one of the "*victors over the beast*" and surely his words show the fulfilment of verse 43 of Moses' song that "*He will render vengeance to His enemies and will be merciful unto His land and to His people.*"

Then we have the evidence of Macaulay the noted historian who wrote in 1829, "*The truth of His Son's glorious advent maketh winged speed in all the churches,*" and the same could have been said of America. All Britain was stirred with the certainty of the approaching millennial kingdom of God when "*all nations shall come and worship before thee.*"

Then we have the testimony of Cowper, (1731-1800) the poet of the evangelical revival, expressing in his "*Task*" the urge of the national conscience of the British nation at that time to evangelise the nations and give warning of coming judgment as in the above song of Moses:—

*"Knock at the gates of the nations! rouse their fears!  
Say, wrath is coming, and the storm appears.  
But raise the shrillest cry in British ears."*

Finally, here is a recent quotation from Dr. L. R. Conradi, a great Christian historian, who sums up the feeling of Britain during the early part of the nineteenth century, as follows:—



John and Charles Wesley, two leaders of the Evangelical revival in the 18th century. Wesley's Hymns were published in the very year 1780, and MILLIONS of copies were sold in Britain and the U.S.A.!

*“The grand thought of what I may do for the Lord before He comes pervaded the whole atmosphere of the true Christians in Great Britain, urging them forward to found Missionary and Bible Societies, orphanages, schools, with the great object before them to prepare the world for the great advent.”*

It was during the Napoleonic wars that the great Bible societies of Britain and America came into existence, and whose enormous activity and progress ever since is practical evidence that the sentiments of the above song of Moses vitalised the whole Anglo-Saxon race.

### **THE SONG OF THE LAMB.**

John also commented that the victors sang the “*song of the Lamb*” which would be the song of salvation in Christ. Once more only one race could claim this mark and that was the evangelical protestant nations of

Britain, the U.S.A., and kindred Scandinavian nations who alone kept alive the Reformation and spread the song of the Lamb or the Gospel to all the heathen. While the Latin nations remained in the superstitions of Roman Catholicism or the ignorance of infidelity, the Anglo-Saxon world was swept by spiritual revival. The era under discussion was one of hymn-writing from which our hymn books have obtained most of their songs. For example, Charles Wesley wrote some 6,500 hymns numbers of which have become classics. Thus both literally and metaphorically the song of the Lamb was sung by this peculiar race of Anglo-Saxons. Israel was to become in the last days "*sons of God*," that is, Christians who would naturally sing the song of their redemption. The sins of Israel led to the "*seven times*" dispersion. The death of Christ taking Israel's guilty place, and the acceptance of Christ's death in the revivals of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, resulted in the restoration of the Anglo-Saxon-Israel race to God with consequent expansion to become the mighty "*Company of Nations*" promised to the fathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

The citizens of the U.S.A. will be able to confirm how their forefathers too, as the Manasseh section of Israel, "*sang the song of Moses and the song of the Lamb*." The French Revolution and the judgments on Papal Europe were all intimately connected with the very period of the painful travail in birth of the U.S.A. in her separation from the mother country. The American Declaration of Independence was in itself a song of deliverance, and liberty, and a recognition of the providence of God in the destiny of the Anglo-Saxon people of the New World. The U.S.A. was founded by men and women who fled there from Papal persecution to form a nation of "*victors over the beast*." There is no space to tell here how exactly as in Britain, spiritual revival swept the U.S.A., missionary and Bible societies sprang up second only to those of Britain—all fulfilling the themes in the songs of Moses. It was also remarkable that in 1782 the U.S.A. adopted in her heraldry the very symbol of God's care and deliverance of Israel which Moses quoted in his song in **Deut. 32-11**, "*As an EAGLE*

... beareth her young on her wings: so the Lord alone did lead ISRAEL, and there was no strange God with them."

### THE REASON FOR THE JUDGMENTS ON PAPAL EUROPE. Rev. 15-5 to 8.

5. "And after that I looked and,
6. . . . the seven angels came out of the temple having the seven plagues.
8. And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God and from His power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues . . . were fulfilled."

These concluding verses of **Rev. 15** record how John saw the seven judgment angels coming out of the heavenly temple which was filled with smoke from the glory of God. The latter is a reference to Israel's experience in **Numbers 16**. There we read that when strangers attempted to perform the priestly office of

ministering to God in the tabernacle, the strangers were slain by fire, and a plague spread among Israel. We read that then Aaron, God's appointed priest, burnt incense, and "*made atonement for the people, and he stood between the living and the dead; and the plague was stayed.*" (**Num. 16-47, 48.**) When God thus poured out His judgments, we read in verse 42 how "*the cloud covered the tabernacle, and the glory of the Lord appeared.*" Likewise the reference in **Rev. 15** shows that the angels' plagues were the judgments of God poured out because certain people were attempting to carry out the office of priests whereas they were not true priests, not of the spiritual family of Aaron. We see how remarkably this refers to the false Roman Catholic priesthood which presented itself in Latin Europe to the people as the true priests of God, yet like Korah and his company were not God-appointed or God-qualified to act as priests. In the plagues of judgment which were poured on Latin Europe in the French Revolution, etc., we know that thousands of Roman Catholic priests were killed. In Protestant England by contrast the plagues of Revolution and destruction which afflicted all the Continent were stayed surely by the faithful high-priestly ministry of Christ on behalf of His people Israel, just as Aaron saved Israel of old.

## REVELATION 16.

### VIAL 1. Rev. 16-1, 2.

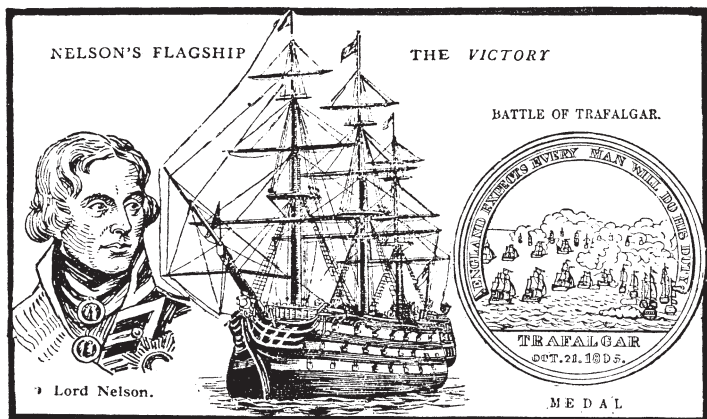
1. "And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the seven angels, Go your ways, and pour out the vials of the wrath of God upon the earth. The locality of the first vial judgment is the Latin earth or Western Continental Europe, and the victims the Papal nations who worshipped in Latin and carried out the edicts of the Papal Councils. The judgment was likened to a sore, ulcer or boil. When the human blood stream is impure, such eruptions break out over the body.
2. And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image."

Likewise John saw the stream of life coursing through the Latin nations was unclean resulting in social eruptions. Protestant interpreters are agreed that this first vial was fulfilled in the French Revolution which burst forth in 1789 in the land of the "eldest son" of the Church of Rome, and then spread to the other Latin nations by means of the press and revolutionary agents. Also in 1793, France declared war against the ruling classes of the other Latin nations with the result that the Continent was plunged into the bloodiest war history records since the fall of Rome. The sore was to be "*noisome and grievous*" or in modern English "*evil and painful*." The horrors of the French Revolution need no detailing here. Immorality and lawlessness ran unrestrained while tens of thousands of people were roasted alive, drowned, guillotined and shot.

The awful carnage of the succeeding Napoleonic wars is the theme of the next three vials.

### VIAL 2. Rev. 16-3.

3. "And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead man; and every living soul died in the sea." The sea becoming like the blood of a dead man suggests bloodshed and death on the sea. True to this prophecy the years 1793 to 1813 saw



terrible naval warfare in which hundreds of ships belonging to France and Spain were destroyed. To mention a few of the sea battles, in 1793 almost the whole of the French fleet at Toulon was destroyed by Lord Hood. In 1794, Lord Howe defeated the French off Ushant. In 1797, the Spanish fleet was beaten by the British off Cape St. Vincent. Then we record Lord Nelson's mighty victories such as the Nile (1798) and Trafalgar (1805) against Spain and France. At Trafalgar the French navy was nearly annihilated and England rescued from all chance of invasion. Also the spirit of the French Revolution spread to the Latin colonies overseas with the result that Spain lost her South American possessions which revolted and finally became independent. This, coupled with Britain's victories in the colonial warfare, is probably the meaning of the symbolism in the prophecy that "*every living soul died in the sea.*" This could not have been literally fulfilled, but was symbolic of the "decease" of the Latin sea-power and overseas colonies.

We ask who was this island nation of Britain whom God used as His earthly instrument to bring to pass the judgment of the second vial on the Latin nations? In the last days, ISRAEL was destined to rule the waves.

Vial 3 describes the wars and battles following upon the French Revolution when the rivers of Continental Europe were metaphorically turned into blood.

**VIAL 3. Rev. 16-4 to 7.**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>4. "And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood.</p> <p>5. Thou art righteous O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus.</p> <p>6. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy.</p> <p>7. And I heard another out of the altar say . . . true and righteous are thy judgments."</p> | <p>When France determined to force her philosophy on the rest of Latin Europe, the result was war. From 1793 onwards the French fought the Germans, the Austrians, and the Sardinians of Northern Italy, with the result that the rivers separating these countries from France became the natural positions around which the battles raged. In the whole history of Papal Europe there had never been any one war in which the valleys of the Rhine, Danube and Po were so filled with bloodshed.</p> |
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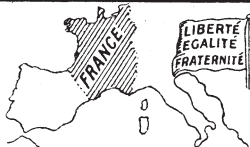
John heard an angel acknowledging that these disastrous battles were the judgments of a righteous God on the Latin nations because the latter had shed the blood of the saints. Truly the valleys of the Rhine, Danube and the Alpine streams of Italy had witnessed the martyrdom of tens of thousands of Christ's witnesses at the hands of the Papal nations—the Waldenses, Albigenses, Huguenots, Vaudois, Wicliffites, Hussites, Moravians, Lutherans and Reformers.

There is something significant in the title given to God in the angel's acknowledgment of this Divine retribution, "*Thou art righteous O Lord, which ART AND WAST, AND SHALT BE,*" i.e., the ETERNAL ONE had not forgotten the cry of the martyrs of Pagan Rome whom John heard at the breaking of the fifth seal asking "*How long Lord, true and holy, dost thou not judge and avenge our blood on them that dwell on the earth?*" The answer came back not "*until their brethren should be killed as they were*" (referring to the second group of martyrs, those under the Papacy). True to that prophecy, as soon as the period of Papal dominion came to its end in 1793, there came the judgment of God on the nations in the Roman earth, so that the Eternal One had



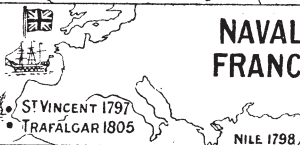
# The Seven Vial Judgments of Rev 16

**1<sup>ST</sup>**  
 SORE ON  
 THEM WHICH HAD  
 MARK OF THE BEAST



**THE FRENCH  
 REVOLUTION  
 1789 - 1793**

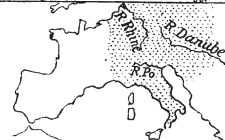
**2<sup>ND</sup>**  
 SEA AS BLOOD  
 DEATH IN THE SEA



**NAVAL DEFEAT OF  
 FRANCE & SPAIN  
 1793 - 1805**



**3<sup>RD</sup>**  
 THE RIVERS  
 AND FOUNTAINS  
 BECAME BLOOD



**FRANCE INVADES  
 NETHERLANDS, GERMANY  
 SAVOY, PIEDMONT. VENICE  
 1793 - 1806**

**4<sup>TH</sup>**  
 ON SUN.  
 MEN SCORCHED  
 WITH GREAT HEAT



**FALL OF THRONES  
 NAPOLEONIC  
 WARS  
 1806 - 1815**

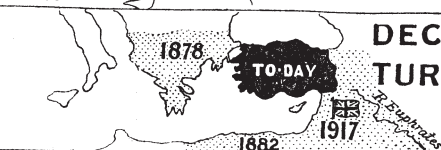


**5<sup>TH</sup>**  
 ON  
 SEAT OF THE BEAST  
 HIS KINGDOM FULL OF DARKNESS



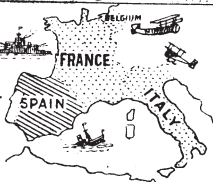
**PAPAL STATES  
 & ROME INVADED  
 POPE A CAPTIVE & EXILE  
 1798 - 1848 - 1870**

**6<sup>TH</sup>**  
 THE  
 RIVER EUFRATES  
 DRIED UP



**DECAY OF  
 TURKEY**

**7<sup>TH</sup>**  
 AIR  
 (1) GREAT EARTHQUAKE  
 (2) BABYLON DESTROYED  
 IN THREE PARTS  
 (3) ARMAGEDDON



(1) THE GREAT WAR 1914-18  
 (2) CHURCH OF ROME DESTROYED  
 IN SPAIN 1936  
 " " FRANCE (?)  
 " " ITALY (?)  
 (3) The Second Advent (?)

The seven vials poured out during the sounding of the seventh trumpet, (Rev. 11-15).

not forgotten. Perhaps also this is the significance of the voice John then heard “*out of the ALTAR, saying . . . Even so, true and righteous are thy judgments.*” We recall the Pagan martyrs referred to above were seen by John in **Rev. 6-9** “*under the altar*” symbolising that they had given their lives for Christ as holy sacrifices. Thus the angel here acknowledges that God’s judgment on the Papal nations is righteous because they had caused this second group of Christians to be similarly sacrificed.

#### VIAL 4. Rev. 16-8, 9.

8. “And the fourth angel poured out his vial on the sun: and power was given unto him (*i.e. to the angel*) to scorch men with fire. Many interpreters see here a reference to that remarkable leader Napoleon who as the instrument of God brought judgment on all the Roman Catholic kings and rulers of Europe (symbolised collectively by the “SUN”) and replaced them with kings of his own creation, his brothers and Generals. Never before had there been such a fall of thrones this being a type of the final fall of those thrones at the end of the age and already partially accomplished since 1918.
9. And men were scorched with great heat and blasphemed the name of God, which hath power over these plagues: and they repented not to give Him glory.”

We read that power was given to this same vial angel to scorch men with fire, and truly it seems as if Napoleon was given Divine assistance in his amazing conquests of the Latin nations, and in the awful plagues of destruction which he and his armies brought on Europe in the Napoleonic Wars. Not only was there the literal fire of musketry and artillery which Napoleon the ex-artillery officer used in a unique way, but everywhere French armies billeted at the expense of the inhabitants. The result was famine, utter desolation, and indescribable suffering.

We read that these judgments would only further harden the hearts of the people who would never repent either of their apostate Papal religion or of their infidelity. In spite of the atheism which swept the Continent in those days, the Latin nations remained more

or less Roman Catholic until the present generation. There were no movements of the Spirit in mighty revivals such as characterised Britain and America at that time, and ever since.

In concluding the interpretation of the first four vials, we notice that exactly as was prophesied the judgments all took place on the nations of the "beast," that is Latin Europe. On the other hand Britain, throughout those twenty years of struggle and bloodshed on the Continent, was never invaded. At the same time her victorious navies were the actual means used to defeat the aspirations of the Latin nations. Also as soon as Napoleon's mission had been accomplished in Europe, it was the armies of Britain under the Duke of Wellington which finally defeated him. Therefore it must be obvious that Britain could not possibly be one of the nations of the Roman-Papal "beast." Who then is Britain as far as Bible prophecy? None other than latter-day Israel who was during the Napoleonic Wars in the process of emerging from her "seven times" punishment, and growing into the mighty Colonial Empire Israel was to become at the very same period in world history. Also the defeat of the Latin nations at home and abroad in contrast with the victories of Protestant Britain was a sure indication that God was with His people Israel according to the promises in His covenants. What other reasonable explanation is there, and what greater proof be needed that the Protestant faith is the faith of Israel "once delivered to the saints" in contrast with the counterfeit Babylonian Christianity of Roman Catholicism.

**VIAL 5. Rev. 16-10, 11.**

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|---|---|
| <p>10. "And the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat of the beast; and his kingdom was full of darkness; and they gnawed their tongues for pain,</p> <p>11. And blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and sores, and repented not of their deeds."</p> | <p>The "seat" or "throne" of the beast was the seven-hilled city of Rome and its environs which were known in history as the PAPAL STATES (see map on page 43). As a result of this vial of judgment the Papacy and its kingdom around Rome</p> |
|---|---|

must have suffered. The whole period of the ending of the times of the Gentiles 1780 onwards has demonstrated the fulfilment of the fifth vial in that the Papal States were repeatedly attacked and consumed, and finally disappeared. In 1798 the Papal States were captured by a French army, the Pope removed from his residence in Rome, and the palaces and convents despoiled of their wealth. The regalia robes of the Pope and his cardinals were burned to melt down the gold in them. In the French revolution of 1848 the Pope was again forced to flee from Rome. In 1860 the Sardinians under Victor Emmanuel invaded the Papal States and defeated the Papal troops. Then in 1870 Italian troops conquered Rome which was incorporated into the Kingdom of Italy thus ending the rule of the Pope as a temporal king so that "*his kingdom was full of darkness.*" During all those years of decline various Popes hurled anathemas and curses at those of the ten kingdoms who were instrumental in his decline but all in vain. It can readily be imagined how the Papal powers "*gnawed their tongues for pain.*" (Note:—The restoration of the Pope as a King in 1929 is explained in the conclusion of this chapter.)

Verse 11 seems to be a general summary of the effect of these five vials on Roman Catholic Europe that no repentance resulted but continued blasphemy against God. All through, the Papacy and the Church of Rome demonstrated that they failed to see the judgment of God upon them, by repeatedly calling upon the Virgin Mary and dead saints to aid them against their enemies, and by reasserting all the blasphemous claims of the Popes of old. For example, at the Vatican Council held in 1870, the Pope was declared to be infallible! Never has there been any suggestion of repentance of idolatry and saint-worship, etc., and in their place the acceptance of the simple gospel of Christ.

#### VIAL 6. Rev. 16-12 to 16.

12. "And the sixth angel poured out his vial on the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of
- The judgment of the sixth vial is on an entirely different territory and people—on the symbolic Euphrates.

the kings of the east might be prepared." Just as in **Rev. 9**, the sixth trumpet released the woe of the Turks against apostate Christendom, and likened the expansion of the Turkish Empire to the overflow of the Euphrates from whence the Turks originated, so the drying up of the symbolic Euphrates by the sixth vial symbolises the reverse process, the decay of the Turkish Empire.

We would expect the sixth vial to follow the judgment of the fifth vial, i.e., some time after the dissolution of the Papal States in 1870. And truly from that time onwards the breaking up of the Turkish Empire proceeded with rapidity. In 1878 the modern Balkan nations gained their independence, and by 1914 Turkey had shrunk almost out of Europe. Then in 1917-18 came the completion of the drying-up process when the Turks were driven out of Palestine, Syria and Mesopotamia including the actual valley of the river Euphrates itself. All that remained of the once mighty Ottoman Empire (whose dimensions may be seen in the map on page 43) was a small cosmopolitan Republic in Asia Minor. Thus the way has been prepared for the advance of the "*kings of the east*." The author used to think that the latter were the people of Israel; but that interpretation was always unsatisfactory from the point of view of Israel coming from the east since the re-gathering of Israel and Judah is to be from all quarters. Then there is a school of thought which thinks that the "*kings of the EAST*," (or "*sun-rising*,") is a reference to Japan; but surely Japan is a long way from the Roman or prophetic earth. The problem is solved for us when we see the connection between the sixth and the seventh vials, but first let us examine the next four verses:—

**Rev. 16-13 to 16.**

Verses 13 to 16 are not part of the vial judgments as their contents shows, but prophesy events following the sixth vial and parallel with the seventh vial.

13. "And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and
- In verses 13 and 14, John describes how that AFTER the drying up of the symbolic Euphrates, he saw three

out of the mouth of the false prophet.

14. 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.
15. (Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.)
16. And He gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon."

satanic spirits go forth from the mouths of "*the dragon, the beast and the false prophet*" to gather the rulers of the Roman earth and other nations to the battle of the great day of God Almighty.

We see these verses clearly fulfilled in the post-war rise of Communism, Fascism and Nazism.

The spirit from the "*dragon*" is surely the revival of Paganism such as we see in the worship of Dictators, the State and mythological gods. The spirit from the "*mouth of the beast*" would be from its last and "*eighth head,*" that is the Papacy. We have remarkable evidence of this activity in the restoration of the power of the Pope as a king and the allotment to him of the Vatican State in Rome by the agreement with Mussolini in 1929. The spirit from the "*false prophet*" would



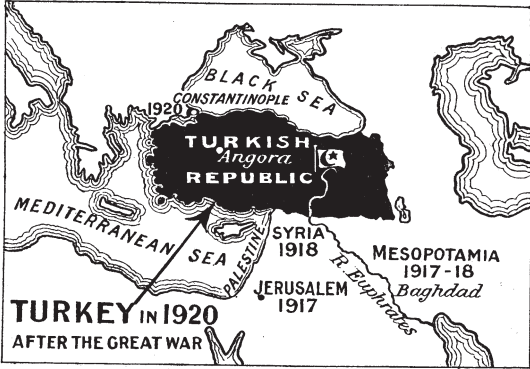
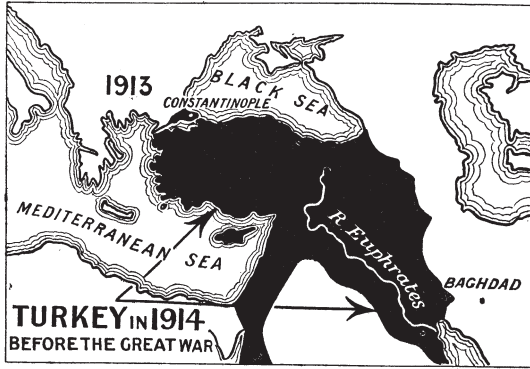
STAMPS VATICAN CITY 1929.

represent activity on behalf of false counterfeit religions such as Roman Catholicism in opposition to the true interpretation of the Bible. This is evident particularly in Protestant countries such as Britain where pilgrimages have been re-commenced since the Great War. Also one of the greatest deceptive miracles was recently performed in England for the first time since the Reformation—the canonization of Sir Thomas More and John Fisher turning them into saints! The spirit from the false prophet is also evident in the growth of spiritism, higher criticism, modernism, and in the rise of

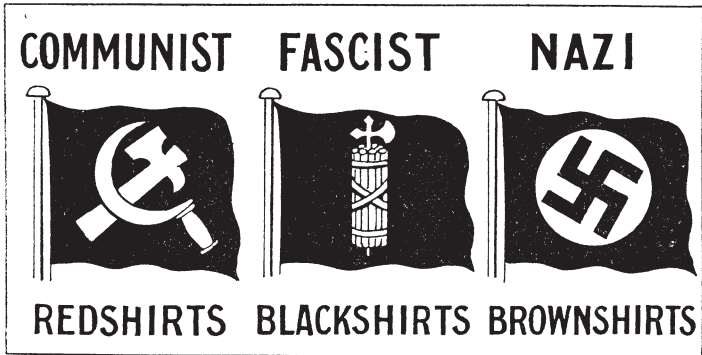
# THE DRYING UP OF THE TURKISH EMPIRE

IN FULFILMENT OF REV. 16; 12 TO 17.

“And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the Great River Euphrates, and the water thereof was dried up”....  
 “Behold, I come as a thief”....



numerous cults and systems which have a savour of Christian names and customs and ideals, yet miss out the experimental necessity of Christ's mediatorial death. These counterfeit religions are Satan's last endeavour to conceal and hinder the knowledge of spiritual things which God is revealing as His kingdom approaches. Thus the warfare to possess the souls of men is subtle as well as open.



John likened the evil influences to frogs. As we witness the world-wide propaganda of the Communists, the Fascists, and the Nazi in the newspapers, in thousands of pamphlets and books, on the wireless, and in speeches of their leaders before mass meetings of their followers, surely all this is like the incessant croaking of frogs.

Verse 15 is in parenthesis in the original Greek, that is, has brackets around it. Hence it is a warning put in here for a special purpose that when Christians would witness the activity of the unclean spirits, they must watch their own Christian lives because they are living in the days of Christ's advent which will be to the world like the sudden appearance of the unexpected Palestinian thief. The garments to be kept clean are those of the bride of Christ "*fine linen clean and white . . . which is the righteousness of saints.*" (Rev. 19-7, 8.) The warning is necessary in this last generation when there is so much anti-Christian activity to tempt the Christian, and when the very atmosphere seems tainted with unbelief and wickedness. The warning also acts as an inspiration to



Christians to have courage for a little longer, that though frightful evil seems to predominate in Europe it is the last Satanic effort to prevent the coming kingdom of God and will be overcome at Armageddon. Since 1917 there has been widespread attention among fundamentalist Christians to the second advent showing that the prophetic warning in this verse is taking effect.

Verse 16 tells us that God will gather the nations into a place called in Hebrew "*Armageddon*." The Hebrew word Armageddon means "*the mount of destruction*" and is a metaphor derived from Mount Megiddo in Palestine which was a noted scene of carnage throughout Bible history. As it was a natural defensive position, it was the cause of many conflicts between Israel and her enemies. Thus Armageddon symbolises the final conflict between God and Satan, Israel and the Gentiles. In **Matt. 25** we read that at the second advent of Christ all nations will be gathered together to judgment. The first phase of this world-wide judgment is the Russian invasion of Palestine described in detail in **Ezek. 38** and **39** when the anti-God forces of "*Rosh*" will be supernaturally destroyed. Following this Christ will sit upon the throne of His glory and separate all nations as a shepherd divides sheep from goats, the latter being destroyed. The term "*Armageddon*" covers the whole conflict at the end of the age, the war of the great day of God when He demonstrates to all nations His justice and righteousness.

#### VIAL 7. Rev. 16-17 to 21.

17. "And the seventh angel poured out his vial into the air; and there came a great voice out of the temple of heaven, from the throne, saying, It is done.
  18. And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake such as was not since men were upon the earth and so great.
  19. And the great city was divided into three parts,
- The first effect of this vial was thunder and lightning (which always symbolises war) and the greatest earthquake ever recorded in history. As the seventh vial must follow the sixth, these verses clearly point to the GREAT WAR which with its after consequences and its continuation from September, 1939, constitutes

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.

21. And there fell upon men a great hail out of heaven, every stone about the weight of a talent: and men blasphemed God because of the plague of the hail; for the plague there- of was exceeding great."

the mightiest upheaval in human history.

John noted that the medium through which this vial operated was the AIR. The Great War commenced the modern era of warfare through the medium of the aeroplane and high explosive and incendiary bombs. The Italian conquest of Abyssinia, the Spanish Civil War, the Nazi conquest of Poland,

the Russian invasion of Finland, have all demonstrated grimly that this present generation is the one which is witnessing and experiencing the vial in the air. Gas-masks, A.R.P., air-raid shelters, balloon barrages, etc., all witness to the AIR as the medium of destruction and thence judgment.

We then read in verse 19 that the further effect of this vial is that "*Babylon*" or idolatrous Christendom receives her final judgment of God. This gives us the clue as to why the symbolic "*Euphrates*" was dried up, and identifies for us the "*kings of the east*." If we go back to the fall of ancient Babylon which was situated on the actual river Euphrates, we find that the eastern kings of Media and Persia diverted the river course and then entered by the dried-up river-beds under the walls into the city, and thus Babylon fell. (See Whiston's "Josephus.") Likewise to-day certain "*kings of the east*" are appointed to destroy the symbolic "*Babylon*." Now if we go directly EAST of Roman Catholic Europe we come to **RUSSIA**; and we know from the history of the last century that the one power which kept Russia from invading Europe was the Turkish Empire. But to-day the divided Balkan States and the residue of Turkey are powerless to keep Russia out. Further the avowed object of Bolshevist Russia is to destroy the Roman Catholic Church in Europe. Finally, Russia has already moved to accomplish the judgment of the seventh vial on "*Babylon*" by

precipitating the Spanish Civil War, and by invading Polish church.

**"THE UNIVERSE."**

LONDON, *December 12th, 1939.*

**Proclamation by the League of Militant Atheists, Moscow.**

"The twelfth hour has struck in the struggle against religion in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe. The victorious Red Army has marched into Poland. It will continue this march and will carry ahead the proud banner of the atheists' movement. The fight against religion has entered a decisive stage. Backed by the bayonets of the Red Army, the atheists are approaching the hour of their great success in Eastern and South-Eastern Europe. Then the march toward the west will be carried on, because the new Germany will not offer serious resistance to the atheist movement."

At this time of her destruction, "*Babylon*" was to be divided into three parts. It is difficult to say what these parts are. If we confine "*Babylon*" to the Latin nations, the divisions would be Italy, Spain and France, but the Church of Rome spread far beyond these original territories. A more likely suggestion is that the three sections of idolatrous Christendom are those in the Slav, Teutonic and Latin spheres of Europe. If this is correct then the Communists have already destroyed a large part of the Slav section in the 1917 Revolution. Nazi Germany is fast preparing the way for the complete destruction of the Teutonic third, and the Latin section of the Babylonian church has already received widespread destruction at the hands of the Communists in the 1936-1938 Spanish Civil War.

John describes the medium of this judgment under the seventh vial as great hail-stones each weighing about one talent, or about 100 pounds, which cause the "*cities of the nations to fall.*" We cannot fail to see here a description of modern aerial warfare whose bombs have already destroyed many Roman Catholic cities such as Madrid and Warsaw, in literal fulfilment of this prophecy. When will Germany, Austria, Hungary, Italy and France receive their portions of this judgment which nothing can hold back? We wait expectantly. The whole of Revelation chapter 18 is devoted to the details of the effect of the judgment of this vial on "*Babylon,*" and we shall obtain further light there as to what is to happen in the near future in Continental Europe.

## REVELATION 18.

### THE FINAL AND COMPLETE DESTRUCTION OF BABYLON.

1. "After these things I saw another angel come down from heaven with great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory.
  2. And he cried . . . with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen . . . is become the habitation of devils . . . a cage of every hateful bird.
  3. For all nations have drunk of the wine of her fornication . . . and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.
  4. And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, COME OUT OF HER MY PEOPLE, that ye be not partakers of her sins and that ye receive not of her plagues.
  5. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities."
- Verses 1 to 3 announce the fact of her final destruction and state the reason for God's judgment is her spiritual fornication or idolatry, and her mis-use of religion to gather in wealth. The completeness of the destruction is emphasised by likening it to the fall of O.T. Babylon (**Jer. 50** and **51**) on the site of which only wild beasts and owls have since lived.
- Verses 4 and 5 record a voice from heaven calling to "*my people*" to separate themselves from "*Babylon*" lest they share her final judgment. Throughout the O.T., "*my people*" are always natural twelve-tribed Israel, the "*house of Israel*" or the "*house of Judah*," or both, and since **Rev. 18** is full of O.T. symbolism, we conclude that "*my people*" are here natural Israel who should be in the process of being restored to blessing while Gentile nations and systems fall. Post-War anti-Semitism has forced the house of Judah to obey the injunction and flee from Continental Europe during the very generation of the fall of the spiritual "*Babylon*."

Protestant interpreters of prophecy such as Elliot and Guinness did not see that Anglo-Saxondom was the "*house of Israel*" and so they regarded the "*my people*" of these verses as the true "*church*" since they could see no other explanation. Yet no Roman Catholic on

being genuinely converted ever stays in Romanism but immediately leaves that system when his eyes are spiritually opened, so that there would be no need for such a warning voice as the above. On this point alone "*my people*" must be the national people of God—either Israel or Judah, or both.

It was this very verse which largely inspired the Reformers to separate themselves politically and spiritually from Rome. Britain as latter-day Ephraim-Israel totally separated herself from Babylonian idolatry, while hundreds of thousands of Huguenots and Netherlanders fled from persecution to Britain and America, Israel's "*appointed place prepared of God.*" However, such a withdrawal was only a type of the final and complete separation of Israel from "*Babylon*" at the end of the age while the latter is being destroyed, as verses 6 to 8 describe. Thus verse 4 is a clear prophecy of a second and complete separation from Romanism as regards the Anglo-Saxon Israel nations. Further, just as the light of the 16th century Reformation was represented to John by a rainbow encircled angel in **Rev. 10-1**, so too this final Reformation was symbolised to John by another angel who brightened the earth with his glory. Thus immediately ahead of the English-speaking world is the greatest spiritual awakening history will ever record. What national privileges and responsibilities are ours! While judgments fall on the Continental nations, God's mighty blessings are being poured out on Britain, the United States and the Dominions beyond the seas.

### THE END OF BABYLON FORETOLD.

#### Rev. 18-6 to 8.

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| <p>6. "Reward her even as she rewarded you . . .</p> <p>7. 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.</p> | <p>We are not told the identity of the agents of her destruction except that they are the people who have just been the victims of her deception, such as the Latin, German and Russian nations. The expression "<i>reward her as she hath rewarded you</i>"</p> |
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8. 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 God who judgeth her."

Church of Rome used to persecute millions of Protestants. Here are two examples—Foxe in his *Book of Martyrs* tells how the Duke of Savoy (in Italy) opened the prisons and let loose the scum of the earth to butcher the Protestants. In 1936 the Communist government of Spain opened the prisons and let loose the scum this time to butcher the Roman Catholics. Foxe also describes how that in Seville and Toledo, Spain, the Church of Rome caused the bodies and bones of Protestant Christians to be dug up and burnt. Such a disgusting practice was continually carried on by Rome. John Wickliffe's remains were similarly treated. On September 15th, 1936, the Pope bewailed "*the profanation of Catholic tombs in Spain,*" but the immutable law is in operation, "*Reward her even as she rewarded you.*"

**"IRISH INDEPENDENT."**

DUBLIN,

*Monday, October 26th, 1936.*

**15,000 RELIGIOUS  
MURDERED.**

The remarkable statement that 15,274 priests, monks, and nuns have been murdered in Spain during the civil war appears in the Catholic newspaper, "Avonine D'Italia" published in Bologna . . . 18,987 churches, convents, and schools are declared to have been burned down or sacked.

is a reference to the Divine law of retribution for sin, and true to this the revolutions in Russia, Mexico and Spain all witnessed the very same cruelties which the

**"DAILY SKETCH."**

LONDON,

*August 15th, 1936.*

**BONFIRE OF IMAGES.**

"At Valencia, next day we found much evidence of fighting and looting. All day long cars, piled high with religious pictures and images taken from the churches, converged on the main square opposite the Town Hall. Here the relics were made into an enormous bonfire."

In verse 8 we are told the physical means by which Roman Catholic civilisation would be destroyed—"DEATH, FAMINE and FIRE." The reader will find here reproduced two typical newspaper cuttings of 1936 reporting the destruction of the Church in Spain by these three methods. Thousands of Roman Catholics,

**Illustrations of the destruction of the Church of Rome in Spain during 1936, in fulfilment of the Seventh Vial.**



The Communist salute outside a burning church.



Smouldering ruins.

Church furniture and images about to be burnt.

priests and nuns, have been put to DEATH. Millions of pounds of treasure, gold, silver and jewels, have been stripped from the Church by force so that she is being left naked and hungry—FAMINE. Thousands of churches, convents and monasteries have been burnt to the ground; also the church furniture, decorations, images and so on were piled high in the streets, petrol poured over them and burnt in literal fulfilment of this prophecy—FIRE. In Germany the Nazis are taking over the property and wealth of the Roman church. In Poland thousands of priests have been murdered or put into concentration camps, while the churches have been taken over by the Nazis and Communists. Millions of Roman Catholic Poles are being murdered or are dying through the famine.

**“THE DAILY TELEGRAPH.”**

*January 1st, 1940.*

**War on Church in Poland.**

“According to eye-witnesses, thousands of priests have been sent to concentration camps, and many have been deported to Germany, where their fate is unknown. At Blomberg, 5,000 persons, many of them priests, were shut in a stable so small that they could not sit. The majority of churches are closed. Weddings are no longer celebrated in Poland. All properties of monks and nuns have been seized. All the Catholic schools have been shut.”

•Verse 7 gives two reasons for this final and complete destruction. (1) That “*she hath glorified herself and lived deliciously.*” The pomp, show, and colossal wealth of the Church of Rome exactly fulfils this description. Immeasurable treasure and enormous legacies have for centuries passed into the hands of the Church on which the priests lived like wealthy potentates, the very opposite to the N.T. pattern of Christians. (2) “*For she saith in her heart, ‘I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow’.*” Rome has failed to take warning from her consumption in the 19th century, failed to see that the exile of her husband the Pope from Rome in 1798, 1848 and 1870, ultimately meant her own downfall unless she repented. Also when the Papacy lost its dominion over the Latin kings, instead of realising that it meant her ultimate destruction, she continued to teach



the people that she was eternal and would see no sorrow. Therefore God says she will now be entirely destroyed.

### THE DESTRUCTION BEWAILED. Rev. 18-9 to 19.

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| <p>9. "And the kings of the earth who have . . . lived deliciously with her shall . . . lament for her when they see the SMOKE of her burning.</p> <p>10. Standing afar off for fear of her torment . . .</p> <p>11. And the merchants of the (Roman) earth shall weep over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more . . . . .</p> <p>12. Gold, silver, precious stones, fine linen, purple, silk, scarlet, all manner of vessels of ivory, precious wood, brass, iron, marble.</p> | <p>13. Cinnamon, odours, and francincense . . . wine, oil, fine flour . . . sheep and horses . . . souls of men.</p> <p>16. Alas that city that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold and precious stones.</p> <p>17. For in one hour so great riches are come to nought . . . and all the company in ships . . . stood afar off,</p> <p>19. Weeping and wailing . . . for in one hour is she made desolate."</p> |
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In verses 9 to 19 we read a forecast of what would happen when the destruction would take place. Three groups are shown, the "*kings, merchants and sailors*" of Continental Europe standing afar off and wailing over her destruction and their personal loss. Here is surely an obvious reference to the flight from the Continent of those connected with the Church of Rome at the time of her destruction, i.e., CATHOLIC REFUGEES. The fact that the mourners are shown standing afar off at SEA, is an interesting prophecy since the indented coast of Europe makes the sea the obvious means of flight. We recall the thousands of Catholic refugees who fled from Communist Spain in 1936. As we are about to witness the complete fulfilment of these verses in the conflagration now spreading over Europe, the events themselves will throw much more light on the meaning of these verses.

We note that the three groups all testified that the destruction had come "*in one hour,*" and the repetition of the expression can leave no doubt that it signifies the **SUDDENNESS** of the destruction and the **RAPIDITY**

of the completion of that destruction. In Spain, 1936, within a few weeks, thousands of Church buildings were burnt to the ground. In Poland in 1939, it took the anti-Catholic Nazi war-planes only four weeks to bring that nation to utter desolation and ruin. Modern mechanised warfare provides all the means to achieve the rapid judgment here visualised. Note that twice in the above verses the comment is made that the burning cities of Europe would be characterised by great columns of smoke. The numerous photographs in the press of the vast clouds of smoke hanging over the burning cities of Poland in 1939, after the air-raids with incendiary bombs, show the unmistakeable fulfilment of these verses.

The absolute completeness of the destruction of "*Babylon*" is emphasised in verses 9 to 19 by showing the groans of certain traders because their merchandise was no longer in demand. The actual items named also identify "*Babylon*" as the Church of Rome. Her clothing of "*gold, silver, precious stones, fine linen, purple and scarlet,*" have always characterised the paraphernalia of Rome in her ornaments, altars, images and priests' garments with their lace and colours. The "*odours and francincense*" are well-known characteristics of Roman Catholic Church services. The "*wine, oil and fine flour*" are surely direct references to the use made of these very items in the unscriptural sacraments of Rome. From the fine flour is made the wafer or bread-god. "*All manner of vessels of ivory, fine wood, etc.,*" are clearly seen in the costly ornamentation of her thousands of church buildings. The "*sheep and horses*" refer to the huge estates of land which came into the Church's possession by all kinds of means, gifts and legacies. Rome owned practically everything in the Middle Ages. Now all is being taken from her. The "*souls of men*" as an article of merchandise seems to be a most pointed reference to the practice of selling indulgences for sin for money so notoriously carried out and which brought in enormous treasure to the Church. Also the wealth paid for prayers and masses for the release of friends and relatives in a mythological purgatory is surely trading in the souls of men.

## THE JUDGMENT COMPLETE.

20. "Rejoice over her thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets, for God hath avenged you on her. In contrast to the sorrow of the Roman Catholics, verse 20 tells the true Church to rejoice that at last God has judged Rome for her persecution of His saints. Verses 22 and 23 show how complete this destruction will be in that her characteristic music will never be heard again; her craftsmen will never again fashion her images; the candles on her altars will never shine again, and never again will she perform the ceremony of marriage. (See page 84.)
22. And the voice of musicians shall no more be heard in thee; no craftsmen shall be found any more in thee;
23. And the candles shall shine no more in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be no more heard in thee: for thy merchants were the great men of the earth; for by thy sorceries were all nations deceived.
24. And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the (Roman) earth."

Verses 23 and 24 then give the final reasons for her desolation:—Her "*merchants were the great men of the (Roman) earth*" that is her cardinals, archbishops and bishops acquired control over the civilized world by selling counterfeit religion instead of proclaiming free salvation in Christ "*without money and without price.*" Her "*sorceries deceived all nations.*" Instead of presenting the Bible, the Church of Rome taught her idolatry and superstitions which deceptions have cast millions and millions into a lost eternity. "*In her was found the blood of saints,*" and truly history has laid to the door of Rome the guilt of persecuting unto death millions of God's choicest saints. Also history points the finger to that Church as the cause of the bloodshed in Europe all through her dominion. Verse 24 signifies that this guilt of Romanism will be unveiled during the actual time of her destruction. In other words, the fulfilment of this prophecy in Continental Europe will reveal to the Anglo-Saxon Protestant nations that the Church of Rome is the "*Babylon*" of the Book of Revelation.

## REVELATION 19.

### Rev. 19-1 to 6.

1. "And after these things, I heard . . . much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia: Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God.
2. For true and righteous are His judgments: for He hath judged the great whore, which did corrupt the earth with her fornication, and hath avenged the blood of His servants at her hands.
4. And the four and twenty elders and the four beasts . . . worshipped God . . . saying, Amen; Alleluia.
5. And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye His servants . . .
6. And I heard . . . a great multitude . . . saying, Alleluia, for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth."

The seventh vial at the end of **Rev. 16** included the fall of "*Babylon*." **Rev. 17** and **18** describe in more detail the last days of "*Babylon*" and her final destruction. **Rev. 19** then describes the next great events. Verses 1 to 4 record how John heard the rejoicing in heaven, at the destruction of "*Babylon*," and the acknowledgment that the judgment of God on the idolatrous Church of Rome which had martyred the saints was true and righteous.

In verse 5 John describes how that then he heard a heavenly voice enjoining the servants of the Lord also to rejoice, and in answer a great multitude acknowledge that now the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. How few people to-day realise that there is a God or that He is intelligently guiding the destinies of the nations according to His Word. However, when the Church of Rome is completely destroyed in Europe, the Protestant world will recognise such an amazing catastrophe as the awful judgment of an omnipotent God on Christianised idolatry. We notice in these verses of praise to God for that judgment that the Hebrew word "*Alleluia*" is used four times, and for the first time in Revelation. This signifies that when the Gentile religion of Roman Catholicism is destroyed, Protestant Israel will praise God for her survival and justification.

## THE MARRIAGE OF THE LAMB IS COME.

Rev. 19-7 to 9.

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| <p>7. "Let us be glad and rejoice . . . for the marriage of the Lamb is come and his wife hath made herself ready.</p> <p>8. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white: for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints.</p> <p>9. Blessed are they which are called unto the marriage supper of the Lamb."</p> | <p>In these verses John tells how he heard rejoicing in anticipation of the near "<i>marriage of the Lamb,</i>" and because "<i>His wife hath made herself ready.</i>" This shows that following the destruction of the Church of Rome, there will come a definite chronological date when the "<i>wife</i>" or "<i>bride</i>" of Christ will be "<i>ready,</i>" that is completed.</p> |
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During the present dispensation as Paul's Epistles repeatedly point out, a people are being prepared who will reign with Christ during the millennium as His executive "*body*" of which He will be the directing "*head.*" There will soon come a time when the number of members in Christ's "*body*" will be completed and the door closed to that high election, and that time is indicated here in **Rev. 19** as following the destruction of "*Babylon.*" Verse 8 tells us who will compose the wife or bride of Christ, those "*arrayed in fine linen, clean and white . . . which is the righteousness of saints.*" That is, Christ's spouse will be made up of Christians, of all nations, who have experienced the cleansing of their sins. Verse 9 foretells the blessing on those called to the marriage supper, which is simply the union of Christ with His saints at His second advent.

(Let it be noted that verses 7 to 9 do NOT record the actual marriage of the Lamb as having there and then occurred, but only the rejoicing in ANTICIPATION of the nearness of that great event.)

## THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST.

Rev. 19-11 to 16.

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| <p>11. And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and</p> | <p>Verses 11 to 16 contain John's record of how that then he saw the actual second</p> |
|--|--|

- True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war.
12. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns.
13. And he was clothed in a vesture dipped in blood; and his name is called The Word of God.
14. And the armies which are in heaven followed him.
15. And out of His mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations; and he shall rule them with a rod of iron; and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God.
16. And he hath . . . a name written KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS."
- advent of Christ. The titles of the rider on the white horse—"Faithful and True, the Word of God, King of Kings and Lord of Lords," all identify Him as the Lord Jesus Christ. The symbolic apparel John saw Him wearing—"a vesture dipped in blood"—identifies Him as the Lamb of God, while the "many crowns on His head" shows Him now coming to Israel as her King to sit on "the throne of His father David." Verse 15 describes how "he shall rule the nations with a rod of iron" which characteristic identifies Him as the "man-child" born of the woman Israel as pictured in **Rev. 12**.

These verses foretell that at His return, Christ will "judge and make war," and "tread the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God." The agents who will carry out Christ's instructions will be the "armies in heaven" which follow Him at His advent. These "armies" are the "ANGELIC HOSTS" which so many N.T. scriptures show accompanying Christ at His return, for example, **Matt. 24**. In answer to the disciples' question in verse 3, "What shall be the sign of thy coming, and of the end of the age?" verses 29 to 31 answer:—

"The sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light . . . and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken, then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. (31) And he shall send his ANGELS with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the one end of heaven to the other."

This is the first resurrection, the union of Christ with His "church," or the "marriage of the Lamb." There will then follow the judgment of the nations carried out by Christ's mighty angels.

## THE JUDGMENT OF THE NATIONS.

### Rev. 19-17 to 21.

17. "And . . . . an angel . . . . cried . . . . to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves . . . . unto the supper of the great God; In verses 17 and 18, an angel anticipating the awful destruction which will take place, calls to the carnivorous vultures to gather to eat the flesh of kings, captains, mighty men, horses, etc., all descriptive of stupendous military organisation. Verse 19 tells how John saw "*the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies GATHERED TOGETHER to make war against Him.*"
18. That ye may eat the flesh of kings, . . . captains . . . mighty men . . . horses and them that sit on them . . .
19. And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies gathered together to make war against Him . . . and His army.
20. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast . . . these were both cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. In **Rev. 16** we saw how that following the sixth vial, that is after the drying up of Turkey in 1917-1918, three Satanic spirits would incite Gentile Europe to prepare for war (as Satan's tools to oppose the coming Kingdom of God.) John now sees the culmination of the Satanic activity, just as we to-day see the result in the tens of
21. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse . . . and all the fowls were filled with their flesh."

millions of Europe's armies with their Red, Black and Brown shirts, Mussolini gloating over his 8,000,000 bayonets, and so on. However, "*when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God,*" (**2 Thess. 1-7**) the weapons of Satan will be like ridiculous toys. Roman Catholic Europe will be utterly destroyed, along with its Papal head and false priesthood. This will constitute the final phase of ARMAGEDDON, the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

## REVELATION 20.

### SATAN BOUND A THOUSAND YEARS.

1. "And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having the key of the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.
2. And he laid hold on . . . Satan, and bound him a thousand years,
3. And cast him into the bottomless pit . . . that he should deceive the nations no more, till the thousand years should be fulfilled."

The first three verses describe how that then Satan, who has all along deceived the nations, will be bound and locked up for a thousand years. This period, familiarly known as the "millennium," is emphatically mentioned six times in **Rev. 20** as if to leave no doubt about it, and also this is the only incident where the simple word "years" is used in Revelation, which fact indicates that they are ordinary years, and not prophetic. By the time we reach the fulfilment of **Rev. 20**, Christ will have returned, and therefore there is no more need to use symbols such as "*time, times and half a time*," which were formerly used in Revelation to conceal temporarily the time of Christ's second advent.

### THE FIRST RESURRECTION AND THE MILLENNIUM.

4. "And I saw thrones, and they sat upon them, and judgment was given unto them: and I saw the souls of them that were beheaded for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God, and which had not worshipped the beast . . . ; and they lived and reigned with Christ a thousand years.
5. But the rest of the dead lived not again until the thousand years were finished. This is the first resurrection.

In verse 4 John then describes how he saw thrones and certain people sitting upon them as judges. We can only conjecture as to who "*they*" are. It may include the "*saints*" of all ages, or be a particular reference to the twelve apostles to whom Christ made the promise in **Matt. 19-20**, that "*Ye which have followed me, in the re-generation when the Son of man shall sit upon the throne*



6. Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection: on such the second death hath no power, but they shall be priests of God and of Christ, and shall reign with Him a thousand years.” *of His glory . . . shall sit upon twelve THRONES JUDGING the twelve tribes of Israel.”* On the other hand, “they” might refer back to the “church” of Christ which John saw about to be called to the “marriage supper of the Lamb” as in **Rev. 19-9**, “Blessed are *THEY* which are called . . . .”

John then commented that he particularly saw those “that were *BEHEADED* for the witness of Jesus, and for the word of God.” There is no doubt that these are the Christians who had suffered martyrdom especially at the hands of Pagan Rome since “*beheading*” was the characteristic form of martyrdom in the war of the Roman dragon against Christianity during the first four centuries A.D. Then we read of a further group who caught John’s gaze, those “*which had not worshipped the beast, neither his image, neither had received his mark.*” Here are all the Protestant witnesses who suffered awful torture and death because they refused to conform to the idolatry and superstition of the Church of Rome throughout the 1260 years of Papal power.

Verses 4 to 6 describe how that all the above “*LIVED* (i.e., were resurrected) and reigned with Christ a thousand years . . . . *This is the first resurrection, Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first resurrection . . . they shall be priests of God and of Christ.*” Here then we have the fulfilment of Christ’s prophecy made to His disciples in **Matt. 16-18** that “*the gates of hell (the grave or death) shall not prevail against my church,*” for at His second advent Christ will resurrect His church exactly as John saw above. The fact that the martyrs stood out prominently before John’s vision was only natural for they were worthy of the prominence. We see here once again the purpose of the writing of the Book of Revelation “*to show unto His servants things which must shortly come to pass.*” As the martyrs saw that they would some day reign with the Christ for Whom they died, how they must have gained courage and patience to endure. With immortal and incorrupt-

ible bodies the church of Christ will as "*kings*" rule Israel and all nations, at the same time teaching the laws of God which will bring peace and happiness in every phase of life. As "*priests*" they will administer to a sick and suffering world the Divine life of God in healing. What a blessed calling, and as verse 5 shows only the "*household of faith*" will be resurrected, the rest of the dead remaining dead until the end of the thousand years.

### THE LAST REBELLION.

7. "And when the thousand years are expired, Satan shall be loosed out of his prison,
8. And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle . . . .
9. And they went up on the breadth of the earth, and compassed the camp of the saints about, and the beloved city: and fire came down from God out of heaven, and devoured them.
10. And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire . . . where the beast and the false prophet (are) . . . "

Verses 7 to 10 show how that at the end of the millennium Satan will be liberated for the purpose of testing the faithfulness or otherwise of the nations. We read that the latter will rebel against God by attacking Israel and Jerusalem. The names given to the rebellious nations, "*Gog and Magog*" is liable to confuse this event with the **PRE**-millennial invasion of Palestine by the Russian "*Gog and Magog*." However the latter event described in **Ezekiel 38** is plainly at the beginning of the millennium, whereas the anti-God rebellion of **Rev. 20** CLOSES the millennium. It seems that the names "*Gog and Magog*" are used in **Rev. 20** to signify not so much the physical identity of the nations (since they will be "*in the four quarters of the earth*,") but rather symbolises that the last anti-God rebellion which closes the millennium will be similar to the present anti-God campaign of Russia at the end of the church age.

Just as in the near future Russia's armies will be destroyed by God, likewise the rebellious nations at the end of the millennium will be destroyed by fire from God. We read that then the Devil that deceived them

will be “*cast into the lake of fire where the beast and the false prophet ARE*” or rather “*WERE CAST.*” The A.V. reads as if “*the beast and the false prophet*” will still be alive in the “*lake of fire*” at the end of the thousand years. However, the word “*are*” is not in the original Greek at all! The true meaning is that the same power which destroys the “*beast and the false prophet*” at the beginning of the millennium will be the receptacle for Satan at the end of the millennium.

## THE GENERAL RESURRECTION AND JUDGMENT

11. “And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away . . . .”
  12. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened . . . and . . . the book of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.
  13. And the sea . . . and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them.
  14. And death and hell were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.
  15. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.”
- Verses 11 to 15 then describe the second resurrection, this time out of the sea and the earth of ALL the dead, those not resurrected at Christ’s advent, plus those who will have died in the millennium. This is the general resurrection referred to by Christ in **Matt. 12-41, 42**, when He foretold that “*the men of Nineveh and the queen of the south shall rise up in the judgment.*” All will be judged according to their works, and separated into two classes. Those whose names are in the book of life will live on in Paradise completely restored in a renovated earth. Death and hell (or the grave) will be destroyed. The wicked will be “*cast into the lake of fire*” which will be their “*second death.*” (According to verse 6 those who partake in the first resurrection are certain not to experience this second death,—as if to say ‘Make sure of being in the first resurrection.’)

## REVELATION 21 and 22.

In the last two chapters, we read how John was shown the post-millennial conditions in a new earth with no more death, sorrow or pain. **Rev. 21** is mainly occupied with a description of the "*new Jerusalem*" which will be an example and blessing to all the nations who survive the judgments at the end of the millennium. The Israelitish features of the symbolic city such as its twelve gates with the names of the tribes of Israel, and its twelve foundations containing the names of the apostles, show that the "*new Jerusalem*" will be largely Israelitish in her origin. The physical dimensions such as its shape "*foursquare*," and its length "*twelve thousand furlongs*," and its wall "*144,000 cubits*," all symbolise a Divinely perfect organization and government, an holy nation such as God all along planned His earthly people Israel would become.

Finally, chapter 22 is the conclusion of the Revelation with the promise of blessing to all who read and act on its prophecies, and the warning of judgment to all who omit parts to suit their own views, or add to it their own philosophy of life. Three times John is told of the sure and comparatively near return of Christ, "*Behold, I come quickly*." The book then closes with a gracious invitation to all who read to become qualified for the highest and most blessed calling ever offered to man.

**And the Spirit and the bride say 'Come.'**  
**And let him that heareth say 'Come.'**  
**And let him that is athirst come.**  
**And whosoever will,**  
**Let him take the water of life freely.**

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