THE BATTLE FOR EUROPE

THE APOCALYPSE IN EUROPE OVER THE PAST 200 YEARS

The Kaiser Reich & World War I  Hitler’s Third Reich  Russia & The Fourth Reich
A SPECIAL EDITION PRESENTING FOUR ARTICLES ON:
The Battle for Europe: 200 Years of the Apocalypse

1. The Great European Earthquake: The End of the Old Order & The Birth of the Modern World
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2. The Empire Strikes Back! The First World War: Who & What was Behind it
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Four articles by Paul Billington published in one issue providing an overview of the Apocalypse fulfilling during the last two centuries and giving us an understanding of the historical background to current events.

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“Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.” John 17:17.
It is charged, that we deny “the perfect humanity of Jesus” and consequently that we deny that the Son of God became incarnate in flesh like ours; and under the foolish idea of conferring a great honour on the Lord Jesus asserts that his body was made of a better kind of flesh than his brethren’s! — that it was essentially holy, pure, immaculate, and immortal per se, and consequently in no one respect similar to human nature, or similar even to any creature whatever! This is what the superstitions of heretics style, “the perfect humanity of Jesus.” They affirm that his flesh was a different and better flesh than “the brethren’s”—that theirs is an imperfect, and his a perfect, humanity. But theirs is “the flesh,” common to the race of man. To say, then, that Jesus was not made in all things like to this—that he had a better nature is to say that “Jesus did not come in the flesh.”

This is the heresy that Elpis Israel is condemned for not teaching. It is true, Elpis Israel affirms, that Jesus came in sinful flesh; but that notwithstanding the plague of such a nature, he was obedient in all things, “did no sin, nor was guile found in him;” in which sense there was no sin in him, “he was without sin;” thus, “he knew no sin, was made sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in him.” In opposition to this, Rome and her meretricious progeny heretically affirm, that Jesus did not come in the flesh; but in a different nature, which they style “immaculate.” They perceive, however, the difficulty of bringing a clean, unwrinkled, spotless nature, out of an unclean; so that they have fallen upon the expedient of cleansing the nature of Mary, by a papal decree. Protestants, the seed of the papacy, however, would object, that they do not believe in the immaculate conception of the Virgin; true, but they believe the equivalent absurdity of pure and spotless flesh coming of sinful flesh! Doh not the Scripture inquire, “How can he be clean that is born of woman? The stars are not pure in God’s sight; how much less man, who is a worm? And the son of man, who is a worm?” Job 35:6. And that the reader may see that this has reference to Christ, styled the Son of man in the New Testament, we will quote the words of the Spirit in David concerning him, saying, “I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people. All they that see me laugh me to scorn; they shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying, He trusted in Jehovah that he would deliver him; let him deliver him if he delight in him” (Psalm 22:6). This was fulfilled to the letter in Jesus; for “they that passed by reviled him, wagging their heads. Likewise also the Chief Priests mocking, with the Scribes and Elders, said, If he be the King of Israel, let him now come down from the cross, and we will believe him. He trusted in God; let him deliver him now if he will have him, for he said, I am the Son of God” (Matt. 27:39-43).

To affirm, then, the immaculate nature of the body prepared for the Spirit, is as unscriptural and absurd as to affirm the immaculate conception and nature of its virgin-mother. One absurdity begets another; and the spirit of Antichrist has generated them both. These two heresies, idolized by papists and protestants, prove them to be all of one family. They all, who claim to be “orthodox,” deny that Jesus came in the flesh. “Many deceivers,” says John, “are entered into the world, who confess not that the anointed Jesus is come in flesh. This is the Deceiver and the Antichrist” (2 John 7). In another place, he styles these “deceivers’ false prophets, or spirits;” for they professed to have the Spirit, and to speak by it, like the Gentile pietists and spiritualists of our day, who make the word of God of none effect by their foolishness.

In John’s time there were those who really had divine gifts; but when did men ever possess the genuine without the world being imposed upon by the counterfeit? It was so in the heritages of the first century; and so great and subtle did the evil become, that the authority of the apostles themselves was imperiled. John, therefore, found it necessary to lay down a rule by which the true might be distinguished from the false. “Beloved,” says he, “believe not every spirit,” or prophet; “but try the spirits, whether they be of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world.” He then gives the rule by which they are to be tried. “Hereby,” continues he, “know the spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that the anointed Jesus came in the flesh is of God; and every spirit that confesseth not that the anointed Jesus is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that of the Antichrist which ye have heard that it comes; and is now in the world already.” Here, then, was the heresy, from which has ripened the fruit of the “immaculate Conception” — the latest edition of Antichrist’s infatuation and stupidity.

Its seed was sown by false prophets, or teachers, before popes and popery had raised aloft their serpent forms. In the apostles’ day it existed as a spirit, or dogma, opposed “to the doctrine of Christ,” which did not acknowledge the distinctiveness of the Father and the Son, but merged them into one. But, “he that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son,” — 2 John 9; he maintains the real humanity of Jesus, or the Father by the Spirit manifested through Sinful Flesh; or as Paul states it, “God manifest in the Flesh”—a mystery incomprehensible to the darkness of the anti-Christian apostasy (John 1:15).

This heresy against the proper humanity of Christ is far more subtle than the counterpart of it, which denies His proper divinity. The orthodox have never been slack in excommunicating those who reject this; but they had better look well to themselves; for the “Sinful Flesh” is as much an element of the divine Jesus, as “the Spirit.” In body, Jesus only differed from other men in paternity. God was the father of that body, not Joseph; therefore the body was Son of God, as Luke testifies of the first Adam. The logical consequences resulting from the denial of the true humanity of Jesus, are destructive of the Mystery of the Gospel, for if the Spirit did not take our nature but a better nature, then is that better nature not our nature, and redeemed from whatever curse it may have laid under, and been reconciled to God. But if the human nature of Christ were immaculate, (excuse the phrase, O reader, for since the Fall we know not of an immaculate human nature) then God did not “send Jesus in the likeness of sinful flesh;” he did not “take hold of the seed of Abraham;” he did not “become sin for us;” “sin was” not “condemned in the flesh;” and “our sins were” not “borne in his body upon the tree.” These things could not have been accomplished in a nature destitute of that physical principle styled “Sin in the Flesh.” Decree the immaculateness of the body prepared for the Spirit, (Psalm 40:6, Heb. 10:5), and the “Mystery of Christ” is destroyed, and the gospel of the kingdom ceases to be the power of God for salvation, to those that believe it. If the Son of Man did not live a life of faith, and if he did not experience all the temptations which we feel, then is his life, and his resistance of evil, no example to us. But “he was tempted in all things after our likeness without sin;” this, however, can only be admitted on the ground of his nature, and “the brethren’s” being exactly alike; hence, He knows what sore temptations are, For he has felt the same:

If the Son of Man did not live a life of faith, and if he did not experience all the temptations which we feel, then is his life, and his resistance of evil, no example to us.

Edited from: Herald of The Kingdom 1856
MILESTONES UPDATE

As the character of the European Union becomes clear, Britain’s membership is being questioned

By Don Pearce RUGBY, U.K.

There are a number of interesting issues, indicating that the angels are moving things forward, preparing for the greatest event of all time; the unrolling of a sequence of events that will commence with the return of the Master to his household, and end with his kingdom established to the ends of the earth. Of all the epochs to live in post-biblical times, surely these are the most exciting and challenging. It is during this period of gross spiritual darkness that covers the earth (Isa 60:2) that there is the fulfilment of so many Bible prophecies.

Last time we concentrated on Britain, in keeping with the theme of that issue of the Magazine. It has been a critical last few months for Britain, so we will commence with that and then look at other events.

Britain versus Europe

Pressure is growing on Britain—sign up to the revised Constitution of Europe or get out! They are more polite than that. However there is a growing dismay in Europe due to the backlash in Britain regarding the prospect of yielding still more power to Brussels. The latest manifestation of the rejected European Constitution is now grandly titled “Draft Treaty Amending The Treaty On European Union And The Treaty Establishing The European Community”—or “The Reform Treaty” for short!

Gordon Brown the new British leader has staked his reputation on not needing to call for a referendum on whether to accept this Treaty. He was placed in a very difficult position by Mr Blair, who with the rest of the EU leaders signed up to this Reform Treaty as one of his last acts, before handing over to Mr Brown. Mr Blair claimed that a referendum would not be needed, as the contents of this treaty were quite different from the rejected Constitution. Although Mr Brown’s heart is not in Europe, he has stuck to this line, knowing that if there was a referendum, the opinion polls indicate that the British would emphatically reject signing up to this Treaty. As more and more becomes apparent about this treaty—for a long time it only existed in French, but now it has been published in English—there is a growing call that it is a Treaty too far.

Mr Brown is being pressured on all sides. The Daily Mail, a popular British paper, held an opinion poll that showed that 80% of the British electorate would welcome a referendum on the matter. The Daily Telegraph has led a “Let the people decide” petition to have a referendum that has received over 100,000 signatures. To add to his woes the EU president has warned that he will raise again the sensitive issue of Britain’s valuable rebate on her contribution to the EU coffers!

What is a Concept?

More and more it is becoming apparent that the mantra of “it is quite different” and therefore doesn’t need a referendum on its acceptance, is far from true. Admittedly the opening clause of the proposed ‘Reform Treaty’ states:

“The constitutional concept, which consisted in repealing all existing treaties and replacing them by a single text called ‘Constitution,’ is

new document has been abandoned, but the new treaty, we now learn, contains virtually everything that was in the Constitution.

“90% of it is still there,” Bertie Ahern, Irish Taoiseach (Irish Independent 24-6-07).

“Only 10 out of 250 proposals in the new treaty are different from the proposals in the original EU Constitution. In other words, 96% of the text is the same as the rejected Constitution” (Open Europe 24-7-07).

The author of the Constitution Valéry Giscard d’Estaing has said that:

“All the earlier proposals will be in the new text, but will be hidden and disguised in some way” (Daily Telegraph 2-7-07).

Here’s what the Belgian Foreign Minister Karel de Gucht said:

“The aim of the Constitutional treaty was to be more readable; the aim of this treaty is to be unreadable… The Constitution aimed to be clear, whereas this treaty had to be unclear. It is a success” (Flandreinfo.be, 23-6-07).

The leaders of Europe have been rather forthright that Britain should stop seeking to maintain her opt-outs and be more wholehearted in her European aims. A subtle approach came from Elmar Brok, the European Parliament’s representative on inter-governmental negotiations for the treaty;

“Britain is a valued member of the EU, but we should perhaps remember that the treaty contains an article which gives any member state the right to leave the EU if it so wishes” (23-8-07).

A former Spanish president, Enrique Baron Crespo, was more blunt. He declared that Britain’s opt-outs had “led to a situation close to humiliation and embarrassment for the entire
EU” (Daily Telegraph 27-8-07).

Other comments have inflamed the situation. “Of course there will be transfers of sovereignty. But would it be intelligent to draw the attention of public opinion to this fact?”—Jean Claude Juncker, P.M. Luxembourg, Daily Telegraph, 3-7-07.

“Sometimes I like to compare the EU to the organisation of an empire. We have a dimension of empire.”—Mr Barroso, the President of the European Commission (EUObserver.com 16-7-07).

Britain ‘Smothered’ with EU Laws

This was the headline to a BBC News item (7-6-07) concerning an attempt by a member of the House of Lords to debate the true cost of remaining part of the EU. Lord Pearson is head of UKIP (UK Independence Party) who like many others is keen to see Britain chart its own course in the world.

“Britain is being ‘smothered’ with EU laws, imposed without proper debate, say peers behind a bid to investigate the effects and cost of EU membership.

“UKI’s Lord Pearson said most laws affecting British business originated in Brussels and were merely ‘rubber stamped’ in the Commons and the Lords.

“He said it meant there was a ‘growing divorce’ between MPs and the public.

“His bill, to be debated by peers on Friday, urges an inquiry into the implications of withdrawal from the EU.

Cost of Membership

“The European Union (Implications of Withdrawal) Bill calls for an independent committee to examine the implications for the UK of withdrawing from the EU.

“This would include outlining the financial cost of EU membership and its effects on its economy, constitution and security.”

Why a Referendum?

Bill Cash a UK MP and an opponent of further integration into Europe, demonstrated in the European Foundation (July 2007) the fundamental change that this new Treaty was subtly bringing in.

“The New Labour Party came to power in 1997 on Tony Blair’s promise that ‘if there are further steps to European integration, the people should have their say at a general election or in a referendum.’ Again, in 2005, the Labour Party Manifesto—which won Blair another term in power—said of the old Constitutional Treaty, ‘It is a good treaty for Britain and for the new Europe. We will put it to the British people in a referendum and campaign whole-heartedly for a ‘Yes’ vote to keep Britain a leading nation in Europe.’ That vote-winning pledge was not honoured. Their referendum on the original Constitutional Treaty was proposed on the grounds that it significantly altered the constitutional relationship between the Member States and the Union. In April 2007, when Blair rejected the demand for a referendum on the revised Treaty, again, he publicly claimed: ‘If it is not a constitutional treaty so that it alters the basic relationship between Europe and the member states, then there isn’t the same case for a referendum.’”

He shows that the reform treaty, without repealing the former Treaties of Rome and Maastricht, nevertheless achieves the same effect “Although the Reform Treaty will be an amending treaty and will not repeal the existing treaties, it will harmonise a European Union (from the Maastricht Treaty) and a European Community (from the Treaty of Rome) into a ‘Union.’”

This turning the European Community into a Union will give it power over individual governments. The new Union will be able to speak and legislate on behalf of its members. The Reform Treaty would give “the Union a single legal personality.’ This would mean that the Member States would act under the European Union as one legally-defined state, as components of a trans-national European Union. Moreover, the Union at this point has gained a new uniform legal personality, providing the new Union the right to conclude international agreements. Thus, the Union will be able to lead on all manner of international actions, such as concluding treaties, holding a right to submit claims or to act before an international court or judge, becoming a member of an international organisation or becoming party to international conventions and holding a right to enjoy immunities and also to bind the Union internationally.”

It will have a Foreign Minister (under a different name) and takes most powers away from individual governments. Union law will take precedence over individual member laws. This is not actually stated in this Treaty. It has been deliberately omitted with the intention of being added as a separate item when the heads of the governments sign up (if they do!) to this Treaty.

The Reform Treaty—None Dare Call it Treason

Cramer on his blog (7-9-07) pointed out there was a 4th area underpinning this new Reform Treaty that had scarcely received any attention “...the analysis of the implications of the Reform Treaty have focused on three main areas. Firstly, the Treaty gives the EU legal personality and distinct corporate existence; secondly, the EU acquires its own political President and Foreign Minister, to be complemented by its own diplomatic corps and Public Prosecutor; and thirdly, it abolishes the ‘two pillars’ distinction between the supranational ‘Community’ bodies and the intergovernmental ‘National’ bodies. That these are the attributes of statehood are undeniable and undeniable. In fact, all that remains is for the EU to acquire the power to impose taxes and declare war.

“But perhaps the most significant aspect of the Reform Treaty is that it renders all British subjects real citizens of the new EU state... “The Reform Treaty, however, is a constitution which is separate from and superior to the constitutions of each member state. It codifies a body of law to which each EU citizen shall be subject, and this citizenship shall be imposed and may not be renounced. Yet the reasonable nature of this Treaty has received no scrutiny at all, for it undermines the constitutional position of the Monarch, and renders her impotent to the new suzerain (‘sovereign’ DFP) power.”

European Mayhem as Treaty Triggers UK’s Exit

Ambrose Evans-Pritchard is the Daily Telegraph’s International Business editor and therefore his words can’t be lightly dismissed. Writing in the 4th Sept 07 edition under the above heading he clearly expected that Britain was on the exit path from the EU.

“British withdrawal from the EU is coming into sharper focus, with all the grave consequences that will ensue for the Atlantic order and the cause of market liberalism.

“For this we can thank those who recklessly—or mischievously—chose to revive the European Constitution after rejection by the French and Dutch people,
when common sense urged Brussels to lie low, lick its wounds, and rediscover patience. “By reopening this can of worms, they have already let France’s Nicolas Sarkozy excise the clause ‘free and undistorted competition’ from the core objectives of the Union. Adieu to the single market, the one incontrovertible benefit of EU membership.

“But British withdrawal—so obviously forced upon us—would send tremors through Holland, Denmark, and Sweden, among the oldest democracies in Europe as it happens, and the richest. It would traumatisé Ireland, and dismay Finland.”

“It would alter the strategic equation for Poland, the Czech Republic, and Slovakia, and further enflame the poisonous quarrel between Warsaw and Berlin.

“Where all this might end is anybody’s guess, but it is a fair assumption that Mr Sarkozy will quickly press for a core-Europe, one more willing to entertain his plans for ‘Community Preference’ (a semi-closed trade bloc), a managed exchange rate, and perhaps capital controls—as allowed by majority vote under Article 59. By then, the French, Spanish, Greek, and Italian housing booms will have popped, so the mood will be receptive.

“What we take for granted as the permanent post-War order is more fragile than it looks. Tug too hard on the British thread, and the European system quickly starts to unravel.”

One senses that those leaders who are pressing for closer integration perceive that a Britain under Gordon Brown will only be an unwilling partner and a drag on their plans. They remember the 5 economic points that Brown successfully clung to in order to keep Britain out of the euro. We saw last time how Britain has prospered outside the euro. With the current banking crisis being felt in Britain with queues of savers trying to withdraw their money from the troubled Northern Rock Bank, yet Britain appears to have weathered this initial storm. But will Europe, when it strikes there? The euro zone is struggling—apart from Germany. The economic foundation of the euro is shaky. With a weak US dollar and perhaps increasing pressure on the euro, sterling will remain an attractive investment for overseas funds.

**Gordon Brown’s Moral Purpose**

This was the heading to a recent survey of Mr Brown’s first months of Prime Ministership, given by Cramer, a by-line for a Conservative MP (in his blog (11-9-07).

“...he has around him a Cabinet with a Christian-Socialist bent, even if any mention of this is deemed to be utterly irrelevant by vast sections of the media.

“While the Christian faith is derided and interdependence of corporate confession, but not if it supplants the individual responsibility to get down on one’s knees and choose to humbly submit to one’s maker.

“It may be added that the subliminal attraction of Mr Brown to the British people is that his political house is built upon the rock of Christianity.”

We will now turn to look at some of the other highlights in the past few months. We start with America and Britain in the Middle East.

**A Large US Air Facility in Lebanon will Face Damascus**

After withdrawing her troops from Lebanon 25 years ago, President Bush, according to a Debka report, is planning a strategic presence in north Lebanon, close to the Syrian border. In addition to these new bases, America is increasing her presence in Northern Cyprus. “Cypriot government sources said the U.S. military was introducing assets and personnel in the breakaway Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. They said U.S. personnel were manning bases operated by the British Army.

“We are seeing increased U.S. activity in Northern Cyprus,” a government source said.” (GeoStrategyDirect.com 11-8-07).

During August and early September, the US positioned one of its big aircraft carriers and its attendant support ships off the shore of Lebanon. She has now moved to join the other 3 US carriers with all their attendant vessels on the other side of the Gulf.

America looks as if she is preparing for a strike against Iran’s nuclear installations before they get too far advanced. Her troop presence in the area give a strong warning to Syria, not to interfere in America’s plans.

**“Israelis have Unearthed a Deadlier Axis of Evil”**

This Daily Telegraph headline (21-9-07) indicated that Syria had now replaced Iraq in Bush’s Axis of Evil—originally Iraq, Iran and North Korea. Syria has more advanced weaponry than any other Arab country. She recently concluded a deal with Russia for the installation of the Pantsyr-S1E air defence system, a deal reported to be worth $750 million. The first of these were installed in August, and were soon put to the test.

That the Israelis launched a daring raid into northern Syria in early September is not disputed. What it was all about has been subject to much speculation. Debka (24-9-07) is certain that this was a raid on newly received nuclear material from North Korea. With North Korea having agreed to give up her nuclear weapons, there is a strong suspicion that anything of value is being sold off to the highest bidder. Some 6 million euros were allegedly transferred from Syria to North Korea for “cement.” The Israelis had been tracking the progress of a vessel flying the North Korean flag, which at some stage of its journey was re-flagged with a South Korean flag—a flag that would not draw attention in Middle East waters. The ship’s manifest indicated it was carrying cement and it duly docked at the Syrian port of Tartarus. The cargo was rapidly off-loaded and moved inland to an “agricultural research station” on the Euphrates.

Debka claims several Israeli planes, guided by laser beams from commandos on the ground quickly destroyed the facilities here. Both Israel and Syria have kept quiet about the details. What is worrying to Syria, Iran and Russia is that the Israelis or the Americans were able to jam the newly installed advanced anti aircraft shield. It is similar to that installed to protect Iran’s nuclear facilities! According to Debka they were able to continue the jamming for at least two weeks after the event.

This has sent a very clear message to Syria...
and Iran that their defenses are vulnerable! Syria finds herself increasingly isolated. No Arab state has sprung to her defense—and after all Syria hasn’t admitted that her facilities have been destroyed. Israeli and American intelligence officers showed the Turkish authorities the evidence that they too would have been under threat from these facilities, so Turkey has not come to Syria’s defense either.

**Britain’s Middle East Links**

As we saw in the last issue the Middle East is an important and expanding market for Britain. What has been of great interest is how these southern Arab states are investing in Britain. One of Britain’s largest grocery chains—Sainsbury’s—is actively being courted by a Qatari government-backed investment group and the London Stock Exchange has recently had half its shares purchased by Bourse Dubai and the Qatar Investment Authority. The LSE is to work with friendly overseas stock exchanges—they hope to merge with the Italian Bourse next month. The London Stock Exchange has invested heavily in high tech equipment for share dealing and is keen to export its know how and equipment.

“With the Borsa Italiana merger scheduled to complete next month, the LSE will overnight have access to expansion paths in continental Europe and the Middle East, boosting its growth and earnings potential” Daily Telegraph (24-9-07).

Qatar and Dubai are on the territory of a “Dedan” of Old Testament times. Both the northerly and the westerly Dedans were trading nations. How significant that in these days the latter-day Dedan power as foretold by Ezekiel nations. How significant that in these days the

**U.S., Australia: A Pacific United Kingdom**

“The United States and Australia signed the Defense Trade Cooperation Treaty on Sept. 5, ahead of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit in Sydney on Sept. 8-9. The agreement is similar to one London and Washington signed June 27. The treaty, a small piece of a bigger picture, illustrates Australia’s increasing prominence in U.S. strategic thinking—a prominence that will continue to grow until Australia is on par with the United Kingdom as a U.S. ally.

“As the world’s center of gravity continues to shift away from Europe, other allies will become increasingly significant for Washington. And because of a striking parallel, the two countries Washington recently signed defense accords with can serve similar purposes in their respective regions.

“The United Kingdom is, and long has been, the linchpin for the United States in Western Eurasia. Its geographic isolation from continental Europe has insulated it from—but nevertheless involved it in—the politics and the balance of power there. This combination

of insulation and involvement makes London the perfect bridge between continental Europe and Washington. Meanwhile, strategically, the British Isles remain the crucial beachhead into the region. Combined with the close cultural and historic ties between the United Kingdom and the United States and a functional independent economy, the continued close relationship is almost inevitable.

“Australia has just this balance in the trendy new Asia-Pacific neighborhood. Culturally closer to the United States than any other Pacific Rim nation—perhaps even more so than Canada—its economy is robust but distinct from the East Asian economies, giving it at once insulation and influence. Its geographical standoff distance is strategically compelling, and it is hoped that Canberra’s ability to manage places like East Timor can be honed and expanded” (Stratfor 6-9-07).

Finally we take a brief look at Russia.

**Russia Plants a Heavy Foot in the Middle East**

Mr Putin surprised the world when, in mid September, he dismissed his prime minister and government and proceeded to rebuild it with his hand-picked friends! Political experts were given a field day looking for signs as to who Putin’s successor would be in the presidential elections due next March.

Putin feels he is now in a very strong position and is preparing to stand up to the West. The above headline is from an article (Debka 11-5-07) on Putin’s agreement with Syria to supply close to $1bn in arms, including 2,500 of the latest shore-to-ship missiles with their advanced radar systems.

**Russian Navy on the Fast-Track**

Russia has certainly prospered under Putin. With the high oil prices on the world market, she has enjoyed a financial bonanza. Putin has been keen to invest some of this new-found wealth in strengthening the military. There have been several announcements in the past few weeks.

“Ever since Tsar Peter founded St. Petersburg (as Leningrad is today known) in the early 18th Century, the Russians have always sought greatness and security in possessing a strong navy. In 2007, the wheel of history has turned once more and, having faced almost to the point of invisibility as a global force between 1991 and 2006, this summer the head of the Russian Navy revealed good progress in building a major new naval base on the shores of the Black Sea. He also unveiled plans to construct support infrastructure for surface warships and ballistic missile submarines in the Pacific. Three massive piers are already finished at Novorossisk, and work is underway on breakwaters, forming protection for the 100 vessels of the Black Sea Fleet (BSF).

“Other statements of intent last month regarding increasing naval capability included Admiral Masorin revealing that Russia is to create two new strike forces. They will be centred on three carriers each, with one trio assigned to the Northern Fleet, based in the Kola Peninsula, and the other to the Pacific.

Pravda stated in an editorial published on July 11: ‘Russia is building a new Navy and aircraft carriers are deemed as its integral part.’ If achieved, this will enable the Russian Navy to maintain a continuous carrier force presence in the Atlantic, the Pacific and further afield. Warships 10-8-07

“‘We are already building practically as many ships as we did in Soviet times,’ Russian First Deputy Prime Minister Sergei Ivanov said.

‘The problem now is not lack of money, but how to optimize production …’

“On the fleet’s wish list are six aircraft carriers, 40 frigates, a new large- tonnage shipbuilding dock near Severodvinsk, numerous upgrades for its more outdated branches, and a series of Yasen-class multipurpose nuclear attack submarines.

“These submarines alone, naval analysts say, will cause a revolution in sub construction around the world, considering the model’s deathly silence underwater and its ability to engage in multiple types of missions, including cat-and-mouse spats with aircraft carriers and sub-to-land missile strikes” (The Trumpet 12-9-07).

**Keeping Awake!**

With so many things happening, and there are many we have not been able to touch upon—the peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians and the growing power of the papacy, for example, we should be wide awake! Time surely is not on our side, our Master’s call to judgement must be exceedingly close. So we echo the words of the apostle Paul:

“Therefore let us not sleep, as do others; but let us watch and be sober. For they that sleep in the night, and they that be drunken are drunken in the night. But let us, who are of the day, be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love; and for an helmet, the hope of salvation. For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ” (1 Thess 5:6-10).

Come quickly Lord Jesus!
In October 2004 the nations of Europe met in Rome to sign what they hoped would become the first constitution of the European Union. This Europe was to be based upon “the cultural, religious and humanist inheritance of Europe,” declared the preamble to the document. In other words there was provision for both the religious and secular elements in modern society.

The constitution failed to gain the necessary ratification however. The Roman Catholic Church had made its views known, for as one Archbishop said: “A mention of the Christian origins of Europe in the preamble of the constitutional treaty was earnestly desired by many citizens…” (La Stampa). So the struggle between the secular and religious forces in Europe which emerged in France over 200 years ago is seen to be still an issue today. In fact it is this challenge which is bringing together both Catholic and Orthodox churches in an attempt to turn back the secular tide. It was Bishop Hilarion Alfeyev who represents the Russian Church in the European Union who spoke of a “proposed alliance (to) enable European Catholics and Orthodox to fight together against the secularism, liberalism and relativism prevailing in Europe” (Catholic Universe, Nov. 1, 2005).

The French Revolution

The French writer, Peter Jurieu, in the year 1687 said: “I considered the present posture of the world, and it seemed to me, as if all things were prepared for some great Revolution.” He then continues in his book to outline his understanding of Revelation 11:7-13, and identifying the political death of the witnesses wrote: “I believe, that ‘tis particularly in France, that the witnesses must remain dead, i.e. that the profession of the true religion must be utterly abolished. This is already done by the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, and by the enormous cruelties of the soldiers…”

The Revelation states that the dead bodies of the witnesses must “lie in the street of the great city.” Jurieu comments: “I cannot hinder myself from believing that this has a particular regard to France…” He continues: “...the tenth part of the city signifies here one of those ten kingdoms, under the authority of the Antichristian kingdom. A tenth part of the city fell, i.e. one of these ten kingdoms, which make up the great city... Now what is this tenth part of this city, which shall fall? In my opinion, we cannot doubt that ‘tis France... And then... There shall be an Earthquake, and a tenth part of the City shall be overturned. Mark that, the Earthquake, i.e. the great alteration of affairs in the... tenth part of the City that shall fall... An Earthquake signifies a great commotion of nations, that must change the face of the world... It shall be only in the tenth part of the City, which shall fall by this Earthquake.”

The French Revolution expected by Jurieu erupted in 1789, and as he had anticipated, swept away the power of the Catholic church as well as that of the king and aristocracy. It brought into being a secular society based upon the French philosophies of humanism under the famous slogan of “Liberty, Equality and Fraternity” (or...
brotherhood). This French spirit, or teaching, brought a reign of terror to France—or as Revelation 11:13 expresses it in symbol: “and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand...” and it sent shock-waves through all Europe. The events in France inevitably created friction with other European nations and a coalition soon formed in order to restrain France. Austria emerged as a foe, and it was during a French attack upon Austrian possessions in northern Italy that a young General Bonaparte demonstrated himself to be a master of the art of war.

**The Old Order in Europe**

From A.D. 800 and for the next 1,000 years from that date, Western Europe (and what is sometimes called Middle Europe) was dominated by that system known in history as **The Holy Roman Empire**. As any historical map of Europe will usually show, this was the area known today as Germany and Austria. It is sometimes known as the Germanic Holy Roman Empire. Although there was friction at times between the emperor and the pope, it originally emerged under Charlemagne as a means of protecting Catholic Europe from the threat of advancing Islam, which had taken control of much of Spain.

In the symbolism of Revelation 13:11 this Holy Roman Empire is the Beast which came up out of the earth, “and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon.” This Beast-Empire of Middle Europe is associated with “the image of the Beast” or papal power, which can be identified on historical maps as the **Papal States**. This association is seen in Revelation 13 and continues in the prophecy as “the beast and his image,” and at a later stage as the beast and the false prophet.

When the earthquake of the French Revolution convulsed
France in 1789 and in the following period it hurled to the ground royalty, the privileged classes and the Catholic clergy sending priests to the guillotine and confiscating church lands and property. The fear was that this revolutionary spirit and doctrine could spread — so both the pope and the emperor opposed the new atheistic and humanistic revolution, but as history shows, they were unable to contain it.

Revelation chapter 16, in the prophecy of the vials, presents in symbolic form the “vials of wrath of God” (verse 1) which are the judgements poured out upon “the men which had the mark of the Beast, and upon them which worshipped his image” (verse 2). In other words, these are judgements upon Catholic Europe and the mark of the Beast, and upon them which worshipped his image” (verse 2). In other words, these are judgements upon Catholic Europe and show how the Old Order was to be removed. It was a work which was largely carried out by the remarkable Napoleonic wars. In summing up this period Larousse History says:

“On 1 August 1806 at the Diet of Ratisbon the Confederation of the Rhine formally declared that it ‘no longer recognised the existence of the Germanic Constitution’, thus withdrawing from the Holy Roman Empire. Napoleon’s envoy declared that France no longer recognised its existence. Five days later Francis II laid down his Imperial title and became simply Francis I of Austria. Thus, unregrettably, the Holy Roman Empire passed into history, and the long drawn out German Middle Ages came to an end.”

Napoleon’s Vials

The “great earthquake” of Revelation 11:13 marked the end of the sixth (“woe”) trumpet period and was the signal for the seventh (last) trumpet period to sound. If we understand that the last three trumpet periods are also called “woes” (see Revelation 8:13), then we can follow the sense of Revelation 11:13-15 and see the position of the vials of wrath in the structure of the prophecy.

“And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were afraid, and gave glory to the God of heaven. The second woe is past; and, behold, the third woe is come. And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever” (Rev. 11:13-15).

So the seventh and last trumpet period is to culminate in the kingdoms of the world becoming Christ’s—but we will notice that before that happens there is anger among the nations and a period during which it is said “they wrath is come” (verse 18). This “wrath” is fulfilled in the pouring out of the vials, for as we read in Revelation 15:7, there are “seven golden vials full of the wrath of God.” And so the command is given (chapter 16:1) “Go your ways, and pour out the vials of wrath upon the earth.”

The seventh trumpet period (the last “woe”) which contains the vials of wrath “cometh quickly” says Revelation 11:14. In other words, following the great earthquake of the French Revolution, the pouring out of the vials of wrath are to be expected without delay, or speedily. This fits the history exactly. The period of the Napoleonic wars followed hard on the heels of the revolutionary period, and as our illustrations demonstrate, those wars came in quick succession and in precisely the order of the vials. So the first five vials are clearly Napoleonic, while the sixth vial is somewhat different and is spread out over a much longer period. What is so remarkable however is the parallel fit to history — this just cannot be coincidence.

It must not be thought that the Napoleonic era completed the pouring out of the vials however. The action was continued over subsequent history. The revolution struck France and Europe again in 1848. It swept through Europe completely demolishing the Old Order, even to the loss of the pope’s temporal power in 1870. The Papal States were incorporated into a united Italy, and secular governments controlled Austria, Germany and Hungary. A secular humanist spirit became the reigning philosophy in Europe but was never fully accepted by the Roman Catholic church. The popes would endeavour to restore the Germanic Empire by whatever means they could.

Left: Napoleon enters through the Brandenberg gate, Berlin in 1806. The Germanic Holy Roman Empire was thus at an end and the Old Order in Europe was swiftly coming to its close. The “vials of wrath” brought judgement upon Catholic Europe, yet “they repented not.”

“VIAL 1.

“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.”—Revelation 16:2

VIAL 2. 1793 ONWARDS

THE SEA TURNED INTO BLOOD

“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.”—Revelation 16:3

VIAL 3. 1796 ONWARDS

RIVERS & FOUNTAINS OF WATER BECOME BLOOD

“And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood. And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art

VIAL 4. 1805 ONWARDS

“And the fourth angel poured out his vial upon the sun; and power was given unto him to scorch men with fire. And men were scorched with great heat, and blasphemed the name of God... and they repented not to give him glory...”—Revelation 16:8-9

VIAL 5. 1809 ONWARDS

“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, And blasphemed the God of heaven... and they repented not of their deeds.”—Revelation 16:10,11

VIAL 6. 1820 ONWARDS

THE POLITICAL EUFRTHERES DRIED

“And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.”—Rev 16:12
Compare The New English Bible and Rotherham’s Emphasised Bible, where the “noisome and grievous sore” is rendered as a malignant ulcer. Revolutionary principles began to spread as a malignant ulcer through Catholic Europe during and after the Napoleonic wars. The French philosophy changed the face of Europe.

“Napoleon’s plans to destroy the British enemy... were given up. Admiral Nelson... secured British naval supremacy. The blockade of French ports and the seizure of ships... increased the British fleet by several vessels a year” Penguin Atlas of World History. The famous “Battle of Trafalgar” (right) was part of this vial and rendered the sea lifeless for Europe.

Napoleon marched his forces into Northern Italy and the Tyrol. This area (the origin of many rivers and fountains of water) had witnessed cruel and merciless persecution of Bible believers by the Catholic powers. In a “war” against these “witnesses” they had shed the blood of saints and prophets—Revelation 11:7.

The title “King of Fire” was given to Napoleon by the Egyptian Mamelukes because of his expert use of cannon in the battlefield (left). The “sun” denotes the rulers of the Catholic world: Emperor, kings and the pope. After the Battle of Marengo (right) Austria sued for peace. In Milan Napoleon assumed the crown of Charlemagne and then entered Vienna. This led to the end of The Holy Roman Empire in 1806. He entered Berlin on October 27 that year.

Since at least 1649 Bible students had understood Revelation 16:12 as referring to the “drying up” of the Ottoman (Turkish) empire. The spirit of revolution created moves for independence in the Balkans, and then Greece, gradually shrinking the Moslem power.

“The French Revolution was to spread out from Paris across the whole continent. It gave rise to a generation of warfare, and its echoes reverberated long into the nineteenth century and afterwards.”—Winston Churchill. We shall see in subsequent sections how this warfare erupted in both World Wars as attempts were made to turn the tide.
The Holy Roman Empire is symbolized in the Revelation as a beast coming up out of the earth, having two horns like a lamb, but speaking as a (Roman) dragon—Revelation 13:11. This is the empire established by Charlemagne in AD 800, and which occupied the centre of Europe (Middle Europe) for a thousand years. In Revelation 13:14-15 we are told that it would deceive those who dwell on the “earth,” teaching them that they should make an image of the old Roman beast (that is the one described in chapter 13:1-10). This “image” of the old Roman Empire became known as the Papal States—the lands directly ruled by the pope.

In Revelation chapter 16 the vials of the wrath of God are poured out upon this Holy Roman Beast through the Napoleonic wars and their aftermath. Men were thoroughly scorched but failed to repent. The throne of the beast and his kingdom were darkened—that is to say, the Holy Roman Empire collapsed and the temporal throne of the pope fell.

Revelation Chapter 17

The fact that Revelation chapter 17 is introduced by “one of the seven angels which had the seven vials” (verse 1), shows that it is a prophecy that is concerned with events of the last 200 years (i.e. it follows the time of the French Revolution. This prophecy concerns the modern world—the present age.

It will be helpful to note the structure of this chapter. Verses 1 and 2 give the introduction. Verses 3 to 6 are the primary vision—and here we must recognize an important feature of prophecy. It has been well expressed by the 19th century expositor John Thomas in his work on the Apocalypse:

“This is a notable feature in all prophetic oracles, namely, the primary statement of the end to be established as the result of, or consequent upon, the details immediately to follow” (Eureka, Vol. 2).

So when we read of the woman sitting upon the scarlet coloured beast with its names of blasphemy, seven heads and ten horns, we are to understand that this scene results from the details given in verses 8 to 13. Verse 14 is the climax, and verses 15 to 18 provide further detail concerning the circumstances connected with the woman (see charts, pages 14 and 24).

The ten-horned scarlet-coloured beast is the result of a long historical development. As verse 8 informs us, it is the beast that was. It is clearly connected to that beast which is described in Revelation 13:1-10, and which represents the Christian (or Catholic) Roman Empire as it existed after the time of Constantine. We therefore learn that a similar system is to come into existence in the modern world—that is to say, during the period of “one of the seven angels

*KAISER WILHELM II OF GERMANY

THE FIRST WORLD WAR

AMAZING STATEMENTS ABOUT THE VATICAN BY BRITISH PRIME MINISTER

“There is a fixed purpose among the secret inspirers of Roman policy to pursue, by the road of force, upon the arrival of any favourable opportunity, the favourite project of re-erecting the terrestrial throne of the popedom...”

Rome and the Newest Fashions in Religion.

W.E. Gladstone.

1875
which had the seven vials” (Rev. 17:1).

It is important to note that chapter 17, coming after the vials of chapter 16, is still connected to them. The beast of chapter 16 (the Germanic Holy Roman Empire) is to be embodied and included as an element in the eventual emergence of the ten-horned scarlet-coloured beast. This was explained by John Thomas in his Eureka (Vol. 3) as follows:

“In the seventeenth chapter, the two-horned episcopal element of the Beast of the Earth is replaced by the Great Harlot Mother of the Churches of the Gentiles; while the secular element is expanded into the Scarlet-colored Beast, symbolical of Ezekiel’s Magogian confederacy of powers...”

So the religious aspect of the papal power and its Vatican becomes (after the proclamation of papal infallibility in 1870) the “false prophet” (chapter 16:13) and “the great whore” (chapter 17:1). The secular and political power of the Germanic beast is to grow and expand into the much more encompassing scarlet-coloured monster which is a Europe-wide confederacy (Revelation 17:13). The final picture is that of the great whore in control of this Magogian beast complete with its ten horns, as seen in the primary vision of verses 3-6.

**The Wilderness**

John is taken to “the wilderness” where he sees the vision of the woman riding the beast. The Oxford Concise English Dictionary tells us that a wilderness is “an uncultivated and uninhabited region.” The Greek word eremos carries the same idea, and in the days of the apostle John it would relate to the (then) uncivilized and uncultivated regions which lay beyond the borders of the Roman Empire. This is the great German or Magog wilderness—that region where the Holy Roman Empire became...
established. This region is also termed “the bottomless pit” (chapter 17:8 K.J.V.). The phrase is an attempt to translate the Greek word ἀβυσσός (abyss). It is an unmeasured or unfathomed depth. It is what Ezekiel 38:2 calls “the land of Magog,” that is the land beyond the limits of the Roman Empire and so regarded as uncultivated and unmeasured in the days of John. It was an abyss or wilderness then largely unknown, but today encompassing the area of Germany, from the Rhine and Danube to the Baltic, stretching across Poland and into Russia. It is from this region that John says the beast ascends, and then goes into perdition (or ruin). Revelation 17:8 reads:

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

In Revelation 16:10,11 the pontifical throne of the beast (of the earth) was afflicted by the plague of the fifth vial, “and his kingdom was full of darkness.” There was no repentance however—in fact matters became worse. As to the empire of the two horned beast of the earth we have seen that the Napoleonic vials brought it to an end. The Holy Roman Empire ceased to exist as such. Yet Revelation 17:8 tells us that the beast was to ascend out of the Germanic abyss (the bottomless pit) and then go into perdition, or ruin. This can only mean that there would be an attempted come-back.

**Return of the Beast**

In 1875 a remarkable collection of writings by the former British Prime Minister W.E. Gladstone was published under the title *Rome and the Newest Fashions in Religion*. He had been Prime Minister from 1868 to 1874 (only a year before his book was published). He was to become Prime Minister again in 1880, and again in 1892. This is what he wrote:

“...In my Expostulations, I laid stress upon the charge of an intention, on the part of Vaticanism, to promote the restoration of the temporal sovereignty of the Pope, on the first favorable opportunity, by foreign arms, and without reference to the wishes of those who were once his people.”

And again:

“There is a fixed purpose among the secret inspirers of Roman policy to pursue, by the road of force, upon the arrival of any favourable opportunity, the favourite project of re-erecting the terrestrial throne of the popedom... The existence at this day of the policy, even in bare idea, is itself a portentous evil. I do not hesitate to say that it is an incentive to general disturbance, a premium upon European wars...”

These were the sober words of warning issued by a man who was in a position to know the facts. Other voices were issuing the same warnings in Italy. One publication, *El Motin* (Nov. 17, 1910) printed a graphic on its front cover which depicted the pope returning to temporal power. Another, *L’Asino* (February 7, 1909) had a graphic of the pope welcoming the Austrian emperor and his soldiers, bearing the caption: “Come on! come on! my sons! For thirty-nine years we have waited for you in Rome!”

The Empire of the Beast had become German and Austrian—two separate sovereign powers. Roman Catholicism had been greatly weakened and was under threat from Protestant religions (Lutheranism in Germany), and from the Eastern Orthodox religions. There was also the threat of a growing secular society that was turning from religion altogether. Rome wanted an opportunity to restore the Old Order and Austria wanted to expand her (Habsburg) empire. This was the situation which took Europe into the First World War, and the beast that was ascended out of the Germanic “bottomless pit.”

**Rome & the Great War**

In October 1908 Austria-Hungary annexed Bosnia and Hercegowina which she had administered since the Berlin Congress. This was undertaken with a view to curbing what was seen as the subversive influence of Orthodox Serbia. The Austro-Hungarians accused Serbia of harbouring terrorists. If Austria attacked Serbia it would bring in their Orthodox brethren in Russia; this was too risky for the Austro-Hungarians. Germany had to be brought in. When the heir to the Austro-Hungarian throne was assassinated by Serb terrorists in Sarajevo, Bosnia; it was enough. Austria and Germany formed an alliance (which the Ottomans later joined) and as expected, when war was declared on Serbia, Russia took her side. Britain and France felt their interests threatened and fought against the German, Austria, Ottoman alliance (known as the Central Powers). There followed the dreadful judgements of World War I.

By 1918 Germany was ruined, the Austro-Hungarian Empire collapsed—as did the Ottoman Empire where a revolution broke out in 1917; and of course Russia was plunged into anarchy with the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution which brought Communism to power. This was a remarkable time as the judgements of the Most High brought Catholic, Orthodox and Muslim powers to their knees, and the beast that ascended from the abyss went into perdition, that is a state of ruin.

**Unfinished Business**

The First World War ended in a catastrophe for the Central Powers and for the papacy. Pope Benedict XV had tried to save the day by calling for peace when he saw that the project to restore the Old Order was going to fail and that the powers of Middle Europe (Austria and Germany especially) would be defeated. The ruin of the alliance could not be avoided however. The results of the First World War not only saw the final collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and Austria transformed into a federal state, it also saw Hungary dissolve into revolution. The same thing happened in Germany which collapsed into revolution and the Kaiser fled across the Dutch frontier. The republic was proclaimed from a window of the Reichstag and the war which had claimed millions of lives came to an end.

Revolution brought the Communists to power in Russia (1917), and the Ottoman (Turkish) Empire likewise suffered revolution following defeat. The spirit of revolution once again changed the face of Europe while the dream of restoring the Old Order was set back—at least until the Vatican could find another Germanic champion. And so it was claimed that three children saw a vision of the Virgin Mary at Fatima in Portugal in 1917, just as the war was nearing its end. In this “prophecy” she

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**First World War Poster**

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laid upon the pope and his bishops the responsibility to “consecrate Russia to her Immaculate heart in order to bring Communism to an end.” The policy of the Church was to continue battle against the New Order that had overtaken Europe.

With the Middle East freed from the rule of the Ottoman Turks, the basis was laid there for a national home for the Jewish people. Thus the sixth vial of Revelation 16:12 was poured out upon the great river Euphrates “and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east (or sun’s risings) might be prepared.” At the same time the “unclean spirits like frogs” (the French-like spirit of revolution) was seen coming out of the mouth of the Russian dragon, and out of the mouth of the Germanic beast.

But it was all unfinished business. There would be another attempt by the empire to fight back and the beast would go into perdition yet again—Revelation 17:11.
Sir Robert Van

The war of 1914 was no more an accident than the war of 1870, or the war of 1866, or the war of 1864, or the wars of Barbarossa, or the wars of Charlemagne.

The Vatican & The Rome-Ber

3 - RISE OF THE THIRD
In considering the beasts of the Apocalypse, it must always be remembered that they are all different phases or aspects of Daniel’s Fourth Beast (Daniel chapter 7). They are Roman, whether the Roman Empire, the Christian Roman Empire, or the Germanic Holy Roman Empire. The features of the beast as well as the context determines the historical and political phase in which to understand them. In Revelation chapter 17 the pedigree of the beast is carefully provided so that we have the history of its development before us. This is especially seen in verses 9 to 11. It is quite remarkable that John Thomas, who completed his third volume of Eureka by May of 1868, could so clearly identify the beast of Revelation 17 when so much of the prophecy still awaited future fulfillment. There is every reason now for believing that he was correct in what he wrote upon this section of the prophecy. In Eureka volume 3 he wrote as follows:

“The beast of the sea in its origin could reckon up only seven heads upon the seven mountains; but this beast of the abyss can count the same seven with an additional head, which is styled “THE EIGHTH”—“the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth; and he is of the seven, and goeth away into perdition.” The Eighth Head is the “Holy Roman Empire,” under “His Holiness” and “His Apostolic Majesty,” forming a conjoint dynasty, as symbolized by Daniel’s Little Horn with Eyes of a man and Mouth of blasphemy. This Eighth Head, with its spiritual emperor in Rome, and its secular emperor in Vienna, has ruled in the midst of the Ten Horns, during many centuries; but the time has not yet quite come when these deliver their power and authority to the beasts’s eighth head for “one hour.”

This identification of the Eighth Head with the Holy Roman Empire was correct. But what John Thomas could not see 130 years ago (and could not be expected to see) was that in ascending from the abyss the beast was the Holy Roman Empire revived in the shape of Germany and the Austro-Hungarian alliance (the core of the Central Powers during the First World War). This was the Reich, or empire.

We may now notice that we are told twice in Revelation chapter 17, that the beast goes into perdition. First we are told this in verse 8, and then again in verse 11. It is unlikely that this repetition is given merely for emphasis, especially as having ascended out of the abyss as the German Reich it went into perdition, and then having ascended out of the abyss as the Third Reich it went into perdition again. This is hardly coincidence.

Now the pattern outlined above would appear to be confirmed by the fact that the next item on the agenda, as given in verses 12 and 13, is a European union—for the ten horns receive power with the beast and give their power and strength to the beast.

**Mussolini and the Pope**

In 1922 Mussolini gained power in Italy and had gradually transformed Parliamentary government into a Fascist dictatorship by 1928. He was known as the Duce (leader) and had the ambition to restore the ancient greatness of the Roman Empire. In February 1929 he signed a treaty with the Pope acknowledging his sovereignty over Vatican City and thus restored the Pope’s political independence. This is known as the Lateran Treaty, and the Fascist Government undertook to pay a vast monetary compensation to the Catholic Church. The Pope had declared “Mussolini is the man sent by...”
became Chancellor of Germany in January 1933. Of his intrigues Hitler (a Catholic by birth) German, Franz von Papen, conspired to bring described how the Papal Chamberlain in (pub. 1947) Avro Manhattan Twenty-first Century Europe by Edmond Paris in The Vatican Against Europe

“...Von Ledochowski considered the forthcoming bellicose settling of accounts between Russia and Germany as inevitable...” And the Basler Nachrichten (27 March 1942) did not hesitate to write: “One of the questions arising from German activity in Russia which is of supreme importance to the Vatican, is the question of

Another book, The Vatican Against Europe (pub. 1959 and in English 1961) tells the same story. Paris wrote: “The Vatican’s support constitutes the decisive factor in Hitler’s lightning rise, and it may be said that National Socialism was created by the Papacy. To convince oneself of this fact it is only necessary to read the documents and testimonies that follow... They are of the first importance for the understanding of contemporary events. They show how the concerted efforts of Franz von Papen, the Pope’s Privy Chamberlain, and Mgr. Pacelli, Nuncio at Berlin (and future Pope Pius XII—P.B.), overcame every obstacle that was still confronting the ‘man of Providence.’”

It was later in 1933 that Nazi Germany signed a Concordat with the Vatican. Paris comments: “The Concordat which was soon to be signed was particularly advantageous for the Roman Catholic Church, as Pius XI was to stress with satisfaction; since it had been ready for a long time, it was soon signed. In fact, it merely ratified the deep understanding between conquering Germanism and papal imperialism—that politico-religious collusion which tended to give to Berlin the control of temporal matters in Europe, and to the Vatican the control of the spiritual sphere, and which was later to be so strikingly confirmed by events.”

So here was the re-emergence of that system that had been known as the Holy Roman Empire. It was the THIRD Reich. Napoleon had ended the First, the First World War had terminated the Second, and now here was the Third! The beast ascended from the abyss yet again. These are the words with which the Concordat began:—

“His Holiness Pius XI and the President of the German Reich, moved by a common desire to consolidate and enhance the friendly relations existing between the Holy See and the German Reich, wish to regulate the relations between the Catholic Church and the State for the whole territory of the German Reich in a permanent manner...”

On July 24, 1933, Cardinal Michael von Faulhaber of Bavaria praised Hitler for the Concordat saying: “What the old parliament and parties did not accomplish in sixty years, (that is since the pope’s loss of temporal power—P.B.) your statesmanlike foresight has achieved in six months. For Germany’s prestige in East and West and before the whole world this handshake with the Papacy, the greatest moral power in the history of the world, is a feat of immeasurable blessing...May God preserve the Reich Chancellor for our people” (Atheism.about.com).

Godless Communism

Manhattan explains why the Pope co-operated with Hitler, and did not protest the occupation of Czechoslovakia or the invasion of Poland:

“The ultimate and main goal was the invasion of Soviet Russia. To do that, Hitler needed to occupy Poland. Czechoslovakia, the first bastion, which had half-opened the gates to Russia, was not enough. Poland, too, had to be put at the disposal of Germany. The Pope would have to use all his influence in persuading the Poles—who, in the disruption of Czechoslovakia, had so intimately co-operated with Nazi Germany...”

“The Pope was faced by a tremendous dilemma. Here, at last, was the opportunity for which the Vatican had worked since the First World War, and for which it had been so busy setting up totalitarian reactionary regimes wherever possible: Bolshevism and its symbol, Soviet Russia, might be completely destroyed. That would mean not only the disappearance of a great country where Atheist Bolshevism ruled, but also the disappearance of a beacon of Communism for all the Communists of the world. Further, the other great dream of the Vatican—the absorption of the Orthodox Church by the Catholic Church—might also come true.”

There was of course the vision/prophhecy (really the policy) of 1917. Russia must be consecrated to the “Immaculate heart” of the Virgin Mary in order to bring atheistic Communism to an end. Thus Pius XII accepted the Nazi move into eastern Europe.

Edmond Paris in The Vatican Against Europe wrote: “One of the questions arising from German activity in Russia which is of supreme importance to the Vatican, is the question of

Hitler & the Pope

In his book The Catholic Church Against the Twentieth Century (pub. 1947) Avro Manhattan described how the Papal Chamberlain in Germany, Franz von Papen, conspired to bring Adolf Hitler to power in Germany, and as a result of his intrigues Hitler (a Catholic by birth) became Chancellor of Germany in January 1933. Another book, The Vatican Against Europe (pub. 1959 and in English 1961) tells the same story. Paris wrote: “The Vatican’s support constitutes the decisive factor in Hitler’s lightning rise, and it may be said that National Socialism was created by the Papacy. To convince oneself of this fact it is only necessary to read the

This image contains a visual reference to the events described in the text. It features the title "The 1929 Concordat between Fascist Italy & the Vatican: Benito Mussolini signs for the Fascist power." A historical illustration depicts a scene from the era, highlighting the political landscape of the time. The text references crucial events, figures, and acts that shaped the relationship between the Vatican and various political entities, including Nazi Germany, Mussolini’s Italy, and the rise of Hitler. The historical perspective underscores the role of the Catholic Church in international affairs, particularly during critical moments of the 20th century.
The evangelization of Russia.

This is confirmed by Father Duclos himself, in a book covered by the Imprimatur:

‘During the summer of 1941, Hitler appealed to all Christian forces... (he) authorized Catholic missionaries to go to the new eastern territories...’

‘Nor has it been forgotten that, in France, Cardinal Baudrillart and Mgr. Mayol de Luppe recruited the L.V.F. for the crusade against Russia.

‘And there was also Hans Derll, the Third Reich’s Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs who, according to Andre Guerber, declared in a beautiful mystical flight:

‘Just as Christ assembled his twelve disciples in a single cohort that was faithful even to the point of martyrdom, so are we witnesses of an identical spectacle—Adolf Hitler is, in reality, the Holy Spirit.’”

A Final Solution

A Catholic Priest, a “Father” Senn wrote on May 15, 1934, to say that Adolf Hitler is “the tool of God, called upon to overcome Judaism...” (atheism.about.com). The following is an extract from The Vatican Against Europe by Edmond Paris:

“In 1933,’ writes Leopold Durand, (Fraternite, June 15, 1945) ‘in forty-five camps of honor forty thousand Germans were already suffering brutal oppression. The sinister camp of Dachau was regularly devouring its quota of prisoners. Pogroms and assassinations had already been launched from one end of the country to the other.’

“And the author recalls the type of extermination songs that were already echoing in the streets:

“When the knife sets Jewish blood flowing.

Jews are equated with Communists in this Nazi anti-Semitic poster

We are once more refreshed...’

“And La Croix (Aug. 9, 1946) itself admits:

‘Ever since 1933, prisoners of the concentration camps were being massacred.’

“All this did not trouble His Holiness Pius XII, to judge from his silence. Moreover, this was but a beginning. There was far better to come.”

Paris says “But it was in eastern Europe that the anti-Jewish crusade was especially rife; it was of unprecedented extent and its atrocity

verged on insanity. The relevant documents, in particular those placed before the international tribunal of Nuremberg and mentioned by R.W. Cooper (Le proces de Nuremberg, Histoire d’un Crime) would fill many a library.” And quoting from those papers:

‘Very soon after war broke out, the systematic extermination of the Jewish race began. Hoss told us about it (at Nuremberg): ‘The final solution of the Jewish problem was the complete extermination of all European Jews. I was ordered to facilitate their extermination at Auschwitz...’

‘While the German armies were advancing across Russia and the Baltic states, the ‘Einsatzkommandos’ were following in their wake. Their atrocious task had been studied and prepared in advance. In the dossier describing the operations of group ‘A’, was a map of the Baltic countries showing for each state the number of Jews to be hunted down and killed. Another map gave the results of three months’ work...’

‘This task was not accomplished by Himmler and the SS alone. It was accomplished in collaboration with the commanding officers of the armies and with the full support of Marshal Keitel and General Jodl; furthermore, every member of the government, every commanding officer of the armed forces and every soldier fighting on the eastern front knew about it.

‘How could operations of this nature possibly have remained unknown when they were being carried out over vast territories, not for months but for years, with the help of the advancing armies and in the regions administered by them?’”

Ever since, the Vatican and its defenders have tried to smother the facts, claiming that the Pope did not know what was happening—or that for this and that reason he remained silent. Several books have been published which discuss the Catholic Church’s role in the Holocaust—probably one of the most well-known being Hitler’s Pope by John Cornwell, but many of these books—whether written by Catholics or Catholic sympathizers dismiss the mountain of evidence that exists as “sketchy,” or else whitewash Rome by vaguely explaining away the Pope’s relationship with Mussolini and Hitler—and at the same time excusing the Pope’s silence.

One of the most reliable books published in more recent years is Unholy Trinity by Mark Aarons and John Loftus (1991). But Rome, being well-practiced in the arts of deception can be counted on to create smoke-screens in order to cover her tracks and confuse the issues through controversy and confusion over the forgotten facts.

Edmond Paris wrote:

“...Ever since the days of Charlemagne, the papacy has not ceased to lean upon the Germans, in order to impose its authority and to extend it throughout Europe... Germany The Great, like the Habsburg Empire, was to serve as a “secular arm” in order to annihilate
the influence of Orthodox Russia in the Balkans and to restore the Holy See’s authority in secular France. The game was lost in 1918, but was resumed in 1939, with the Vatican playing the very same card which it is still playing today.”

Middle East “Hinge”

In the early Summer of 1942 German forces were racing into Russia and preparing to take Stalingrad north of the Black Sea. At the same time Rommel was sweeping across North Africa toward Egypt, the Suez Canal and Palestine. The two fronts had the makings of a pincer move on the Middle East. The Jewish National Home in Palestine stood in danger of being crushed—what was happening to the Jews in Europe could soon be repeated in the Middle East—and we may wonder whether this was intended. Was “the tool of God called upon to overcome Judaism...” in the Middle East—to completely wipe this people off the face of the earth?

On Wednesday July 1st, 1942 Britain’s Daily Mail had an article headed ‘ALEX’ HINGE OF THE MIDDLE EAST. The article asked “Can we defend Alex?” (that is, Alexandria in Egypt). In retrospect we can now see that the battle west of Alexandria—at El Alamein—was the turning point of the war. This, together with the disaster that befell the Nazis in Russia, turned the tide of the war. From this moment onward the Vatican saw that Germany would lose the war and began making arrangements in order to meet that outcome. This they did with great diligence!

The result of the Second World War was a return to perdition for the German Beast. It brought the advance of Communism and divided Europe in half—and far from exterminating the Jewish race, it brought another step in the restoration of their nation. The State of Israel was born!

An appropriate footnote to Hitler’s career was delivered by the Spanish dictator Franco on May 3rd, 1945. He was reported in ‘Reforme’ as saying:

“Adolf Hitler, son of the Catholic Church, died while defending Christianity. It is therefore understandable that words cannot be found to lament over his death, when so many were found to exalt his life. Over his mortal remains stands his victorious moral figure. With the palm of the martyr, God gives Hitler the laurels of Victory.”

Admiral Doenitz, who became the new Fuhrer spoke on the German radio (reported in the News Chronicle on May 2, 1945):

“German men and women, soldiers of the German Wehrmacht, our Fuhrer, Adolf Hitler, has fallen. In deepest sorrow and reverence the German people bows. He recognized the terrible danger of Bolshevism at an early date and dedicated his existence to this struggle.

“The end of this, his struggles and of his unswerving, straight path of life, is marked by his heroic death in the capital of the Reich.

“FIGHT AGAINST BOLSHEVISM”

“His life was one single service for Germany. His action in fighting against the Bolshevik spring-tide was waged beyond that, for Europe and the entire civilized world.”

SO THE POPE DIDN’T KNOW...?

It has been claimed that the Pope and his Vatican did not know of the events in Europe surrounding the Holocaust, but that claim is hard to sustain in view of the publicity being given to it during the war. The appeal to the British public by Victor Gollanz (cover shown above) was published in 1942. The press in the United States (right) commented upon the situation and the Catholic hierarchy was frequently in touch with Nazi officials. Of course the pope knew—but he chose not to!

1942: Nazi forces moving towards the Middle East.
The Third—or King’s—Crusade (1189-1192) was the first to involve a king of England in the Holy Land. Part of the stated intent of the Crusade had been to ensure access for pilgrims to the Holy Sites in the Land, and so Richard reached a compromise with Saladin whereby unarmed Christian pilgrims were permitted to visit the city of Jerusalem.

A number of Crusades were to follow, and five hundred years later, when Napoleon invaded Egypt and Syria with the intention of blocking British commerce with India, his forces were seen as another Crusader force. He was turned back at Acre by the British and the Turks. Western forces in the Middle East today still deal with their image as invading crusaders.

Britain played an earlier role in maintaining Ottoman integrity against an ambitious Egyptian force under Mehmet Ali who tried to break up the weakening Ottoman Empire by taking control of Syria. Britain, Austria, Russia and Prussia signed the London Convention in 1840, offering Ali the hereditary rule of Egypt if he would retreat from Syria and cease his war with the Sultan. Both in the defeat of Napoleon and the restriction of Ali, Britain exercised control over Egypt. The country was seen as an important staging post on the road to India.

The Suez Canal was built by a French company, but it ran into financial difficulties. In 1875 the government of Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli borrowed £4 million from the Rothschild's, a Jewish and the Far East, and took control of the seaway important staging post on the road to India. The Suez Canal was built by a French company, but it ran into financial difficulties. In 1875 the government of Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli borrowed £4 million from the Rothschild's, a Jewish company, but it ran into financial difficulties. In 1875 the government of Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli borrowed £4 million from the Rothschild's, a Jewish company, but it ran into financial difficulties. In 1875 the government of Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli borrowed £4 million from the Rothschild's, a Jewish company, but it ran into financial difficulties. In 1875 the government of Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli borrowed £4 million from the Rothschild's, a Jewish company, but it ran into financial difficulties. In 1875 the government of Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli borrowed £4 million from the Rothschild's, a Jewish company, but it ran into financial difficulties. In 1875 the government of Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli borrowed £4 million from the Rothschild's, a Jewish company, but it ran into financial difficulties.

The decision of the British cabinet which became the Balfour Declaration was made coincidentally on the day that Beersheba fell—October 31, 1917. The British public learned of the fall of the town the same day that Arthur Balfour, the British foreign minister wrote a letter to Rothschild expressing support for their goal of establishing a homeland for the Jews.

Battling their way north and east through the Sinai, the wide-ranging mounted Anzac forces, in particular, were able to overrun the Turkish/German forces and push them north.

It was 1922 before Britain accepted the mandate after a stirring speech from Winston Churchill. The British forces went on to Amman in Transjordan, through the Jezreel Valley, to Acre on the northern coast, and finally to Damascus and the Turkish border as the war with Turkey came to an end on the 31st of October, 1918. Allenby was one of the most successful Allied generals, and from 1919 to 1925, he served as the British High Commissioner in Egypt.

After the War, what had been Turkish Palestine was under the control of the British and French. It was 1922 before Britain accepted the Mandate after a stirring speech from Winston Churchill to the British House of Commons on July 4th. The period of the Mandate—from 1922 to 1948—was not a pleasant time for either the British or the Jews. Finally, Britain decided to give up its mandate, and on November 29th, 1947 the United Nations, meeting at Lake Success, New York, voted for the partition of Palestine into two separate states.

With the British departure on the 14th of May of 1948, two important events occurred—first, David Ben-Gurion, the Chairman of the Jewish Agency, read out a Declaration of Independence and announced the establishment of a Jewish State called Israel, to come into being at midnight, and second, five Arab states—Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Transjordan and Egypt—gave orders to their armies to cross the borders into Mandate Palestine to destroy the Jewish settlements. The British were responsible for the beginnings of the “National Home,” but now the Jews had to fend for themselves.
Bible prophecy, both Old Testament as well as the Revelation in the New Testament, shows us that there is to be a gathering of the nations in the latter days. This assembly of nations will join battle in the Holy Land in an attempt to oppose the purpose of God with His people the Jews, who He will have gathered upon the mountains of Israel.
TOWARDS A UNITED EUROPE LED BY RUSSIA, GERMANY & THE VATICAN
The picture that is given to us in Ezekiel chapter 38, where a Super-Star (Day-Star, or morning-star—Isaiah 14:12 c/p RV, RSV, etc) by the name of “Gog” is seen to prepare and assemble a great company, is that of an invasion of the mountains of Israel. The same crisis is outlined in Joel chapter 3, and again in Zechariah chapter 14, as well as in other parts of the Old Testament. This gathering together of the nations is also described in Revelation 16:14-16 where a certain “spirit” (teaching or philosophy) is engaged in the work of uniting the nations—a result that is also seen in Revelation 17:12, 13.

A European Beast

The scarlet coloured beast of Revelation chapter 17 represents Ezekiel’s Magogian confederacy of nations. This has already been explained on page 13 of this magazine.

The ten-horned beast of Revelation chapter 13:12, was first manifested as the Christian Roman Empire as founded by Constantine “the great.” That empire was eclipsed as a result of the Barbarian invasions and the Moslem plagues, but it re-appears as the Scarlet Coloured Beast of Revelation 17. This is the explanation of the beast of Revelation 13:1-2 offered by John Thomas in his Eureka Volume 3 as follows:

“John’s Sea Monster with the Bear-Feet and Leopard-Body, represents Daniel’s Fourth Beast in its ampest development of the last of the days. It answers to Nebuchadnezzar’s Image at the crisis of its demolition by The Stone. When John’s Beast of the Sea comes, in fact, to stand upon its four brazen-clawed Bear-Feet, its dominion will consist of the Russian, Continental and Mediterranean Europe, Persia, Ethiopia, Libya, Togarmah, Egypt and Syria. When the throne of the Russian Autocrat is transferred to Constantinople, the apocalyptic Bear-Feet, armed with Brazen or Greek Claws, will also be enthroned there, and be prepared for the work that remains of ‘stamping the residue.’”

In other words, the ten-horned beast of chapter 13 will have metamorphosed and developed into that of chapter 17:3. Here, John sees it in the Germanic (or Magogian) wilderness, for that is where it ascends in the latter days—that is, from the “bottomless pit” (or abyss). It rises first in verse 8 as an attempted restoration of the Holy Roman Empire—and then again in verse 11. It is after this that the ten horns (or Europe) unite their power with the beast, so forming the ten-horned scarlet coloured beast of the primary vision in 17:3. When this becomes fully manifest it will be seen that the great whore is sitting upon the beast in a position of control. The monster of the European Union will then be led by a Russo-Germanic military guardianship, and by his spiritual accomplice, the False Prophet of Rome. As John Thomas wrote of Russia as long ago as 1854:

“As the head of a confederacy of the adherents of the Greek and Latin churches, it will be his policy to cause their priesthoods to be respected as useful co-operators in the subjection of Europe to his will.”

“They Repented Not...”

Among the most feared enemies of the Vatican following the Second World War was atheistic Communism (which had advanced half way across Europe) and the Jews—who had established a Zionist state in the Holy Land. Other enemies included the Eastern Orthodox Churches and the secularism of the West. The Protestantism of the Reformation was now history; it constituted no real threat.

As the Second World War came to its close, the Vatican needed to continue the struggle against Communism. The Church was alarmed, and spread that alarm among the allies warning them of the terrible consequences that would follow a Communist penetration of Western Europe. It must also be remembered that Jews were seen as “Bolsheviks” (Communists), and that a Jewish state in the Middle East would be a foothold for the enemy in that important part of the world.

The Vatican’s concern over advancing Communism has been expressed by their official historian “Father” Graham:

“Communism was a threat to the Church on two levels—namely, on the theological, theoretical, ideological level—namely, on the theory that God doesn’t exist and that this...
modern society should be based on godlessness. And then the second, on the practical level of simple persecution. Stalin annihilated the Catholic Church in the Soviet Union, and the Communist Party abroad was obviously following suit. If they could ever get control of the political power they too would follow the same pattern. So, on this double level there was perfectly good reason for the Catholic Church—and above all under the leadership of the Pope—to take a very dim view indeed of the Soviet Union, especially under Stalin.”

It was against this background that the Vatican sought to shield certain Nazi war criminals and smuggle them out of Europe in co-operation with the Red Cross organization. One high-ranking Roman Catholic cleric, Dr. Krunoslav Draganovic, told Ivo Omracanin why it was important to save anti-Communist Nazis: it was because “We’ve got to keep a sort of reserve on which we can draw in the future.” (Quoted on the video Ratlines).

A newspaper report on Tuesday October 1st 1946 provided details of the sentences passed at the Nuremberg trial of Nazi war criminals. Under the heading “Innocent on All Counts” is the entry: “PAPEN Franz von, elder diplomat and former German Chancellor.” (The Evening News). In the same paper it is reported that the Soviets protested his acquittal, that Austria wanted to try him separately, and that he sought to strengthen Austrian Nazis “through intrigue and bullying.” How did Franz von Papen get off the hook? Edmond Paris in his book The Vatican Against Europe shows that “A great voice was raised in von Papen’s favour.” He leaves no doubt that this voice was that of the Catholic Church. Quoting a Paris paper (October 4, 1946): “It is both painful and shameful to have to say it, but von Papen’s acquittal is Pius XII’s condemnation.”

Other Nazi war-criminals simply “disappeared” with the help of the Vatican: Klaus Barbie, the notorious ‘Butcher of Lyon,’ Walter Rouff, Adolf Eichmann, Josef Mengelle, Erich Priebke—just to mention a few. The U.K.’s Catholic Herald (April 18, 1997) carried a front page headline: “POST-WAR VATICAN IMPLICATED IN NAZI ESCAPES.” Shimon Samuels the European director of the Simon Wiesenthal Centre in Paris is quoted as saying: “The Church has clearly been implicated in its war against Bolshevism, and as a result it gave support to war criminals.” The Israeli newspaper Haaretz (Jan. 15, 2006) reported that—“Pope Paul VI (formerly Cardinal Montini, Vatican deputy Secretary of State under Pius XII) helped to hide and launder property stolen from Jews in Yugoslavia. He was also involved in smuggling Croatian and Nazi war criminals out of Europe...”

Both the United States and Britain joined in the battle against Communism. A movement known as “Free Inter Marium” brought uprisings in Hungary (1956), Czechoslovakia (1968) and then in Poland.

A Different Approach

Having failed through two world wars to turn the tide of the democratic and revolutionary spirit, the Vatican realized that it must adopt a different approach. The Catholic Church began to change its image, championing the under-privileged, the rights of man—the workers. A papal encyclical of 1931 entitled Quadragesimo Anno had spoken “against the tenets of socialism and the false notions of human liberty,” and discussed “the social order” as one that depended upon authority. Some section headings were: “Socialism has a Concept of Society and the Social Character of Men utterly foreign to Christian Truth”... “Catholic and Socialist are Contradictory Terms.” This approach was to be changed as a result of the Second Vatican Council which began under Pope John XXIII.

In 1961 the encyclical Mater et Magistra considered “New Light on Social Problems.” It claimed to be “A re-evaluation of the Social Question in the light of Christian teachings.” It set the stage for the Second Vatican Council which opened in 1962. Commenting upon this, Alberto Cavallari says in his book The Changing Vatican (pub. 1966): “There are some (declarations) which definitely mean, as one theologian has written, a Catholic reconciliation with the ideas of the French Revolution which only yesterday were unconditionally condemned. Liberty, fraternity, and equality are in fact the keystones of the council doctrine...”
High level meetings were very soon taking place between Soviet and Vatican officials. It was a period of dialogue—but the goal of the Vatican remained unchanged—atheistic Communism had to be destroyed.

In May 1987, The Toronto Star ran the headline: “POPE CALLS FOR CREATION OF UNITED EUROPE.” He wanted to see a united Europe “from the Atlantic to the Ural”—that is, all of western Europe, eastern Europe and Russia! Was the Pope calling for the impossible? For a miracle?

Communism Collapses

One of the political “miracles” that the false prophet wrought before the beast, and with which he deceived those who were impressed by his character, or “mark,” was highlighted by TIME magazine (Dec. 30, 1991) when it declared: “The world will recognize in due time that the defeat of communism came at the intercession of the mother of Jesus.”

In reality, the “mother of Jesus” had nothing to do with the collapse of Communism, but the Catholic Church working hand-in-hand with the CIA and President Reagan during the 1980’s certainly did. In fact it was TIME magazine (Feb. 24, 1992) that told the story in a special report entitled “The Holy Alliance,” and quoted Reagan’s National Security Adviser who said “This was one of the great secret alliances of all time.” The story is an up-to-date illustration of what we read concerning the false church in Revelation 17:1-2; she is:

“...the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.”

The story of Vatican and U.S. collusion was given further publicity on the front page of The Daily Telegraph (Sept. 14, 1996) under the headline: “Pope plotted with CIA to destroy Soviet bloc.”

This destruction of the Soviet had been the long-term goal of the Vatican ever since 1917. But along with the “conversion of Russia” came another objective following the 1939-45 war: the re-unification of Germany.

The cracks began to appear in the Communist empire early in 1989; in Poland, Hungary and Czechoslovakia. East Germans were soon making their escape through Hungary and Austria (August 1989). By October massive protests and riots spread across East Germany, and by November 9th the Berlin wall was opened. On December 2nd it was reported that the leader of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev, had visited the Pope in Rome. “The Pope blessed the leader of Soviet Communism” said The Daily Telegraph. The next day, December 3rd, the East German Party leader and entire Central Committee resigned. Demands for the re-unification of Germany followed in January 1990. On October 8, 1990 TIME magazine could announce on its front cover, “GERMANY IS ONE.” The territory that once formed the Holy Roman Empire once more appeared as a single geopolitical entity in the centre of Europe.

By August 1991 Mikhail Gorbachev resigned as General Secretary of the Communist Party and the Soviet Union in effect ceased to be a Communist state.

A European Union

After being told that the beast goes into perdition (Revelation 17:11), we are informed that the ten horn-powers (that is of Europe, c/p Daniel 7:23,24) receive power with the beast. It is to be expected that a joining together will take place, a European union—one that will include the Germanic beast. In the past this objective had been sought through military means. A remarkable article in the Nazi wartime magazine Signal had the heading “What we are fighting for: For Europe’s liberty and the end of its continual fratricidal warfare.” The following is an extract:

“For many centuries past Europe has been torn by the wars of its peoples. Actually there have never been any long periods of peace on our Continent. An unfortunate policy of coalitions resulted in the European peoples taking up arms against one another and
mutually slaughtering the flower of their youth at frequent intervals. An end must be put to that now and an end can be put to it...

"Today the situation is simply that either Europe unites in combating these extra-European power complexes (i.e. of Britain, the U.S. and Russia—P.B.) or that it is gradually undermined country by country and destroyed by them... Today we are faced by the necessity of reaching the next stage, that of the unification of Europe.

The Beast Lives!

Gradually—and very, very slowly—Germany has revived to become one of the most powerful nations in Europe. By 1999 she was able to move her governing body back to Berlin and re-open the Reichstag—the very same chamber in which the voice of Adolf Hitler called for the unification of Europe, the end of Communism, and for the extermination of the Jews.

Few people in Britain today take The Sun newspaper seriously, but there are good reasons for pondering the question posed by that paper on January 4, 1999 when it asked “Is Germany trying to succeed where it failed in two wars?”

The comment was:

“The language being used by Germany about the need for a strong united Europe runs through the whole of the last 100 years... Germany has not surrendered its ambition to dominate Europe. It is merely using another means to the same end.”

Few think much better of The Daily Mail which ran the headline “Rise of the new Reich” (April 19, 1999). The article commented:

“It’s as if Berlin’s flat and swampy Prussian soil holds a virulent bacillus ready to re-infect the volk with the disease of German militarism, the desire to dominate all non-Germans whether by war, or by the bureaucratic dictatorship of the European Union.”

Unbelievable though it may be, and as though having the Reichstag back in business was not enough, in 2005 the German Cardinal Ratzinger became Pope Benedict XVI. Here was a man—a former member of the Hitler Youth—who was now head of the Roman Catholic Church. Not only that, but his choice of name (Benedict) is understood to indicate the main objective of his pontificate—the unification of all Europe!

Further, this Pope demands recognition as head of all Christians—including those of the Orthodox Church. CBS News had this to say:

“Pope Benedict XVI has reasserted the universal primacy of the Roman Catholic Church, approving a document released Tuesday that says that Orthodox churches were defective and that other Christian denominations were not true churches... The document said Orthodox churches... lack something because they do not recognize the primacy of the pope...”

As the European “horns” unite their power...
“with” the beast, the great whore is positioning herself in the saddle, and will doubtless reign over the kings of the earth, as she sits upon the scarlet coloured beast (Revelation 17:3 and verse 18).

War with the Lamb

We must recall the conclusion of John Thomas made about 140 years ago about the apocalyptic beast of the sea (Revelation 13:1.2), which we quoted earlier from his Eureka (Vol. 3). The latter-day development of this monster, he said, would be extensive: “...its dominion will consist of the Russian Empire, Continental and Mediterranean Europe, Persia, Ethiopia, Libya, Togarmah, Egypt and Syria.” He says further that “the beast of the sea in chapter 13 was the polity it represents in its origin; but the beast of the abyss of chapter 17, is the same polity in the last thirty years...of its existence...”

What John Thomas did not see—and could not be expected to see—was the “perdition” (or ruin) of the beast following the First and Second World Wars. The ten horn kingdoms of Europe unite their power (authority) with the beast after the ruin of verses 8 and 11, not before it. This does not detract from his remarkable exposition, it merely fills in some detail that was not clear in the 19th century. Let it be remembered that Revelation chapter 17 is revealing to us the pre-adventual consumption of the beast and the harlot—as John Thomas rightly says (Eureka Vol. 3 Pg. 626 old ed.). Revelation chapter 18 shows “The Destruction of the Great Harlot”—that is to say the post-adventual judgement of Babylon the Great.

Revelation 17:14 must be seen as referring to the “war with the Lamb” (Christ and his saints). This war is one which commences in the Holy Land (Ezekiel 38 etc.) and then continues into Europe (the Magog of Ezekiel 39). This is a war—not just one battle. It is a process that bridges chapter 17 and 18 of the Revelation, and encompasses that “war” in which the Lamb overcomes his enemies. In the prophecies of Daniel it is Nebuchadnezzar’s image (the latter-day Babylon) smitten by the stone. First it is broken in pieces, and then the kingdoms are consumed (Daniel 2:44). This war with the Lamb commences in Revelation 17:14 and continues until the beast and the false prophet are taken and cast alive into the lake of fire (chapter 19:19,20). It is a war that will occupy several years.

Russia Preparing

The European Union today cannot act alone, she must lean upon a military super-power. There is little doubt that this power must be Russia. In 1989, Peregrine Worsthorne—Catholic editor of The Sunday Telegraph—wrote:

“...if Europe, the cradle of civilisation, is ever to become whole and healthy again, only Germany, in conjunction with the Russians, can bring this miracle about. But can she be trusted? A futile question since there really is no choice” (May 7, 1989).

Today, as Russia regains her strength—thanks to her control of energy supply, especially to Europe—it becomes increasingly obvious that she will gain the ascendency over Europe. She will gain this position with the help of the Pope. As John Thomas saw it in 1854, when writing of the Russian leader:

“As the head of a confederacy of the adherents of the Greek and Latin churches, it will be his policy to cause their priesthoods to be respected as useful co-operators in the subjection of Europe to his will.”

As the BBC recently expressed it, Putin “wants the pope on his side as he restores Russia as a global force.”

Voices in Germany today are already counselling that Europe should submit. The ex-German chancellor, Gerhard Schroeder has said as much accusing Poland of “narrow-minded nationalism.” A report on eu.observer.com quoted Schroeder:

“‘For the good of Europe it’s sometimes necessary to forget about the interests of individual (member) states,’ he said. Poland imposed the veto in late 2006 in reaction to a Russian ban on Polish meat exports.”

But Putin’s Russia is preparing herself in other ways also. The Canadian news magazine Maclean’s carried a front page lead article with the title PUTIN THE TERRIBLE. The article began:

“A couple of weeks back, while news readers were averting their gaze from photographs of a shirtless Vladimir Putin fishing in Siberia, two videos circulating on the internet laid bare a different, much more chilling, portion of the Russian body politic. The first was a crude bit of agitprop thought to originate with the Nashi, a Kremlin-funded youth movement loyal to Putin whose work involves denouncing the president’s critics as fascists, homosexuals or foreign-controlled traitors.”

A European Union controlled by Germany, Russia and the Pope is a blueprint for unparalleled tyranny.

It continued:

“Both (video-clips) draw inspiration from Nazi-style ultra-nationalism, with its obsession about ethnic and ideological purity. Both invoke a Russian destiny to wield power throughout its hemisphere. Both do their business under the nose of—in the Nashi’s case, with the blessing of—a government that purports to wage a war against extremism.

“The 100,000-strong Nashi, whose name means ‘Ours Together,’ has been dubbed the ‘Putin Youth’ by liberal critics and intellectuals. ‘This is a way for the Kremlin to entrench its xenophobic, authoritarian political culture in the next generation,’ says Edward Lucas, the British author of a forthcoming book called The New Cold War And How To Win It. And the Hitler echoes go beyond blind loyalty. At a rally north of Moscow in July, 10,000 members gathered under images of ballistic missiles to burn works of “unpatriotic” fiction and non-fiction, while studying a manifesto that calls on young people to mobilize in defence of the motherland.”

A European Union controlled by Germany, Russia and the Pope is a blueprint for unparalleled tyranny. It is a terrifying prospect that faces the modern world, but as we see the nations gathering the words of the Lord Jesus Christ reverberate from the pages of Scripture: “ Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame” (Revelation 16:15).

We live at the epoch of his coming—may we receive that blessing as we watch, and keep our garments through faith in his word, until he comes.
The view that the Catholic Church constitutes the kingdom of God, was first promoted by Augustine, bishop of Hippo (AD 354-430) in his work “The City of God”.

The Kingdom of God is Within You

By Ron Kidd  LONDON, ONT.

Many years ago we spent some time participating in weekly open air talks in Allan Gardens in downtown Toronto. The experience was very rewarding for those who spoke, particularly when challenging questions were asked. There were “regulars” who came weekly to hear what we had to say and this resulted in our becoming familiar with what came to be recognized as wrested scripture questions (a term lifted from the verse in our heading).

One question frequently popped up when discussing the kingdom of God on earth, and that was, “what about the kingdom of God within you.” They were referring of course to a comment made by the Lord Jesus Christ; the text reads as follows:

“And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you” (Luke 17:20, 21).

The words of Jesus are used to support the idea that the kingdom of God is the spiritual reign of Christ in the hearts of believers. Here again is another example of people interpreting a Bible text based upon some preconceived idea. A comment from the Catholic Encyclopedia will demonstrate the point:

“In the mouth of Christ the ‘kingdom’ means not so much a goal to be attained or a place—though those meanings are by no means excluded; cf. Matt. 5: 3; 11: 2, etc.—it is rather a tone of mind (Luke 17:20-21), it stands for an influence which must permeate men’s minds if they would be one with Him and attain to His ideals; cf. Luke 9: 55... as men realized that this kingdom stood for a certain tone of mind, and saw that this peculiar spirit was enshrined in the Church, they began to speak of the Church as “the kingdom of God”...The kingdom of God means, then, the ruling of God in our hearts; it means those principles which separate us off from the kingdom of the world and the devil” (Catholic Encyclopedia 2003 electronic edition).

Notice that in support of this view Luke 17:21 is referred to.

The view that the Catholic Church constitutes the kingdom of God, was first promoted by Augustine, bishop of Hippo (AD 354-430) in his work “The City of God.” What we need to do is examine the context of Jesus’ words and determine if this is what Jesus meant.

We will begin by looking at what Jesus was talking to. Verse 20 tells us that it was the Pharisees and this in itself should alert us to the fact that Jesus was not speaking about the kingdom of God in men’s hearts. You see the Pharisees did not accept Jesus Christ, instead they constantly watched him to catch him in his words, and so we read,

“And as he said these things unto them, the scribes and the Pharisees began to urge him vehemently, and to provoke him to speak of many things: Laying wait for him, and seeking to catch something out of his mouth, that they might accuse him” (Luke 11:53,54; see also Mark 3:6).

It was the Pharisees who accused Jesus of performing miraculous works of healing by the power of “Beelzebub the prince of devils” (Matthew 12:24); of them Jesus said that they had “rejected the counsel of God against themselves” (Luke 7:30). Towards the end of his ministry Jesus clearly identified what was “within” the Pharisees and it certainly was not the kingdom of God, he said, “Even so ye also outwardly appear righteous unto men, but within ye are full of hypocrisy and iniquity” (Matthew 23:28). Because of this Jesus said, “Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?” (Matthew 23:33).

So What Did Jesus Mean?

We will begin this section of our investigation by looking at the question posed by the Pharisees and Jesus’ response to it.

The Pharisees had approached Jesus demanding to know when the kingdom of God would come. There is in this question an element of truth. They were correct in believing that the kingdom had not yet come. This was something the Lord Jesus Christ had clearly taught throughout his ministry. He commenced his work by teaching, “the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand” (Mark 1:15), and in the Lord’s prayer he taught his disciples to say, “Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is heaven” (Matthew 6:10). On one occasion Jesus spoke a parable in response to those who believed that the kingdom of God should immediately appear, saying, “A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, and return” (Luke 19:12).

The nobleman is obviously the Lord Jesus Christ, who at the time of the parable had not yet received the kingdom. Jesus had to go away into a far country to receive the kingdom, a reference to his ascension into heaven. Once he had received the kingdom he would return and reward his servants, as the rest of the parable reiterates. Jesus did ascend into heaven, but he has not yet returned.

But the Pharisees were not really looking for the kingdom of God. Jesus responded to their question by stating, “The kingdom of God cometh not with observation” (Luke 17:20). The word “observation” literally means “inspection”; another translation says “narrow watching”. It is the Greek word “paratērēsis” (Strong’s #2907), which is derived from a word translated “watched” in relation to the leaders of Israel scrutinizing Jesus (Mark:3:2, Luke:6:7, Luke:14:1, Luke:20:20).

Regardless of the countless miracles that Jesus performed, the Pharisees still insisted upon Jesus showing them a sign (Matthew 12:38; 16:1). Unfortunately the Pharisees couldn’t see the forest for the trees; they were so busy.
were experiencing what the kingdom of God would be like, they were being given a taste of God’s future glory. Indeed, the kingdom of God had come near to them, if only they had eyes to see. A similar comment is made by Jesus in Luke 11:20.

The other complimentary meaning is that the Lord Jesus Christ himself was the kingdom of God in embryo. Consider the occasion when Jesus rode triumphantly into Jerusalem the week before his crucifixion, the people broke out into chants of praise for the Lord Jesus Christ. Let us examine the corresponding gospel records: Matthew says, “Hosanna to the Son of David: Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest,” (21:9). Mark says, “Blessed be the kingdom of our father David, that cometh in the name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest” (11:10). Luke says, “Blessed be the King that cometh in the name of the Lord: peace in heaven, and glory in the highest” (19:38). John says, “Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord” (12:13). Each gospel writer has recorded only one aspect of the words of the people, but combined we learn that Jesus Christ is “the Son of David;” the “King” or “King of Israel;” “the kingdom of our father David.” In the Lord Jesus Christ is represented all the qualities of God’s kingdom. This little exercise should demonstrate the importance of reading the Bible with care. Attributing meanings to certain Bible texts without due consideration to context and overall Bible teaching will lead us completely astray. Let us be diligent and rightly divide the word of truth.

Through the miracles the nation of Israel

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THE BIBLE IN THE NEWS

The saints who understand the word will keep aloof from politics. None are more interested in them than they; but they will mix themselves up neither with one party nor another; for God regulates them all...

JOHN THOMAS,
Elpis Israel, written in 1849

Man honours God in believing His word and obeying His laws

JOHN THOMAS,
Elpis Israel, written in 1849

The Jews—the meanest, the weakest, the most despised people on the face of the earth, are to become the most powerful and renowned among the nations, having all people in subjection.

ROBERT ROBERTS,
Christendom Astray, written in 1862

By Him (God) all ages and dispensations have been arranged. Faith discerns a purpose in creation and in history.

JOHN CARTER,
Epistle to The Hebrews, 1939

He will not raise them up in the last day upon whom the drawing influence of the word has not been brought to bear (John 6:44). They are “as the beasts that perish”

JOHN THOMAS,
Anastasis, written in 1866

What is this wilful sin? The context on both sides of the verse fixes what it is... It is leaving the Truth...

JOHN CARTER,
Epistle to The Hebrews, 1939

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Our Fellowship

W e live at a time of the world’s history when all the indications are that—as the prophet expressed it, “the Lord whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple” (Malachi 3:1). The question that follows is: “But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth?” (verse 2). The day of the Lord’s coming is first, a day of judgment.

The apostle Peter has similar words when he says (1 Peter 4:17):

“For the time is come that judgment must begin at the house of God: and if it first begin at us, what shall the end be of them that obey not the gospel of God?”

This event, which the prophetic word teaches us to expect now—now, when Israel is back in their Land, and when the nations of Europe are uniting their power and strength with the Beast—may come upon us at any hour. Who will abide it? Who shall stand in that frightful moment?

We are told that there will be many who imagine that they have fellowship with the Lord, but who will be told: “I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity” (Matthew 7:21-23). He explains what knowing the Lord is (verse 21); it is doing the will of the Father who is in heaven. Jeremiah tells us what the Father’s will involves; it is to “do judgment and justice ...to judge the cause of the poor and needy... was not this to know me? saith the LORD” (22:15,16).

To know the Lord, in the Scriptural sense of the term, is what constitutes fellowship with him; it is to do as he would do—to act as he would act and to be motivated by the same principles. This is what the New Covenant involves. In Jeremiah 31 we learn (verse 33) that this is a process whereby God puts His laws in the inward parts and writes it upon the heart. Then he says:

“And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

Here is true fellowship—when the Father’s laws and His principles are operating in a man or woman, and when as a consequence their iniquity and sin is forgiven.

There are many who claim this fellowship and even flatter themselves by imagining they are secure in it, yet live in denial of the very principles that should govern conduct towards others. Judgement, justice, the cause of the poor and needy are the characteristics already mentioned. In the same vein we read in Hebrews 10:24-25, “And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.”

It may be noted that this is said in a context about the New Covenant (see verses 16-17), and also about “the blood of the covenant” (verses 19 and 29). The ideas are obviously connected.

The Pharisees were proud of their scrupulous observance of laws and traditions, but Jesus told them:

“Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and have omitted the weightier matters of the law, judgment, mercy, and faith: these ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone. Ye blind guides, which strain at a gnat, and swallow a camel” (Matt. 23:23-24).

We must surely look to ourselves and ensure that we do not strain at gnats while swallowing camels whole. Let us remember the Lord’s emphasis here—it is judgment, mercy and faith—those characteristics through which we may “know” the Lord and his fellowship. And it is in the exercise of these principles that we “consider one another... not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together.” It is in our treatment of one another that our true condition is made manifest. Many of the Lord’s parables demonstrated this—and it seems that if we want to abide the day of his coming we had better take notice of these things.

But the Lord’s fellowship cannot be a mere humanism. There are the “principles of the doctrine of Christ” as given in Hebrews 6:1-2. There are the promises of God made unto the fathers (Acts 26:6,7) involving “the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ” (Acts 8:12) and which embody “the hope” by which we are saved (Romans 8:24; Acts 28:20). Salvation, says Paul, is “through sanctification and belief of the Truth” (2 Thess. 2:13), so there are certain Gospel facts that are to be believed, and all these things are to be understood as “the gospel of Christ” (Romans 1:16 etc.). This is believing in Christ—it means believing in all that he stands for as the basis upon which believers “all may be one,” that is to say in the fellowship of the apostles (John 17:17/21; 1 John 1:3).

All this may be accurately and perfectly understood and believed—but if our treatment of fellow-servants is harsh, as in the case described in Matthew 24:48-49, what can we expect to receive at the hand of Christ? Perhaps verses 50 and 51 provide guidance here—as does Jeremiah 66:5.

In Luke 22 we read of the Lord’s reference to drinking “of the fruit of the vine” which, we understand, represents—as he said—“the New Covenant in my blood” (compare verses 18 and 20). In Genesis 49:11 the fruit of the vine is termed the blood of grapes, and it is the fruit of the true vine (John 15:1) that is “the blood of the everlasting covenant” (Hebrews 13:20), or New Covenant (Luke 22:20) “shed for you.” Those branches that are in real fellowship with the true vine bring forth much fruit—fruits of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-24). This fruit is seen in our treatment of others, and it is by their fruits that ye shall know them (Matthew 7:20).
As autumn arrives the European hedgehog goes into a d-e-e-p sleep. In fact one account tells us it is so far gone, that “to all outward appearances it is dead.” As a true hibernator it “falls into a state of apparent death during the winter months and comes to life again in the spring” says The New Book of Knowledge. “Actually, it is in a state of coma... How is this coma brought about and how is it ended? As yet, scientists do not know.” Whether or not they know, one thing is clearly evident: Here is a lesson in death and resurrection! The God who gave us the Bible is the One who created all things, yes, beautiful autumn scenes and even prickly hedgehogs! So as Acts 26:8 says, “Why should it be thought a thing incredible with you, that God should raise the dead?” You see, it’s all designed to teach us—to make us think! So don’t kick against the pricks: Wake up!

This hedgehog’s heart rate will drop from 190 per minute to 20 a minute. He will breathe once every few minutes.

Although his brain is virtually closed down sound will cause the prickles to rise!