



# **The Final Rise and Fall of the King of the North-**

Jeff Pippenger

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### PREFACE

**IT is not the intent or purpose of this presentation to raise theories, thoughts, or concepts outside of sustainable principles found within the Inspired Record. The series of events suggested herein are primarily yet in the future. Jesus said:**

Now I tell you before it come, that, when it is come to pass, ye may believe that I am he. John 13:19.

Acknowledging the fact that one purpose of prophecy is to build faith as God's Word is fulfilled, does not negate or silence the commands and promises connected with the study of prophecies yet in the future. Even if the events portrayed here prove to be essentially accurate, the author recognizes that there is much more contained in these verses than he has attempted to address in this brief study.

#### Which We Must Know

All that God has in prophetic history specified to be fulfilled in the past has been, and all that is yet to come in its order will be. Daniel, God's prophet, stands in his place. John stands in his place. In the Revelation the Lion of the tribe of Judah has opened to **the students of prophecy** the book of Daniel, and thus is Daniel standing in his place. He bears his testimony, that which the Lord revealed to him in vision of **the great and solemn events which we must know** as we stand on the very threshold of their fulfillment. *Selected Messages*, book 2, 109. (All emphasis supplied unless otherwise noted.)

Certainly, if we must know these great and solemn events, we must come to know them through the study of God's prophetic record in both the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy. There are promises connected with His commands for us to be students of prophecy:

The Bible is to be our Guidebook, and instead of consulting the wisdom of men, and accepting as divine truth the assertions of finite mortals, we should search the sure word of prophecy. God has spoken, and His Word is reliable, and we must rest our faith upon a "Thus saith the Lord." **God would have us study the events that are taking place around us, and compare them with the predictions of His Word**, in order that we may understand that we are living in the last days. We want our Bibles, and we want to know what is written therein. **The diligent student of prophecy will be rewarded** with clear revelations of truth, for Jesus said, Thy word is truth. *Signs of the Times*, October 1, 1894.

This presentation is an attempt to follow His command to study prophecy with a desire equal to searching for buried treasure. The author is not dogmatic about his conclusions, for he is painfully aware of his finite understanding. He *does* believe that this presentation is in agreement with the traditional Adventist understanding of end-time events, and also with the message in the book of Revelation:

We should receive great benefits from a study of the book of Daniel in connection with the Revelation. Daniel studied the prophecies. He earnestly sought to know their meaning. He prayed and fasted for heavenly light. And the glory of God was revealed to him in even greater measure than he could endure. We are in equal need of divine illumination. God has called us to give the last message of warning to the world. 'Mere will be voices heard on every side to divert the attention of God's people with new theories. We need to give the trumpet a certain sound. We do not half realize what is before us. **If** the books of Daniel and the Revelation were studied with earnest prayer, we should have a better knowledge of the perils of the last days, and would be better prepared for the work before us—we should be prepared to unite with Christ and to work in His lines. *Review and Herald*, February 9, 1897.

The early Advent movement was founded upon an understanding of the prophecies located within the book of Daniel. The Holy Spirit brought great conviction to the believers of

these prophecies as they identified the imminent return of Christ. The series of events suggested in this study identify a prophecy from the book of Daniel which, as in the early Millerite movement, carries serious and solemn implications.

If the conclusions drawn from this study are accurate, they confirm that we presently stand on the verge of a national Sunday law in the United States, and will soon be involved in the greatest time of trouble which has ever been. This sobering thought is very similar to the convictions held by the early Millerites,

### **FORWARD by Clark Floyd**

And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures? Luke 24:32.

Two of the disciples of Jesus, who had been part of the great disappointment at the crucifixion of the One "which should have redeemed Israel" (verse 21), were, on the third day after that crucifixion, given a Bible study by Jesus Himself that opened to them the meaning of scriptures with which they had long been familiar. Their hearts burned within them.

In reading the manuscript for this book, my heart burned within me. Over the years, I have seen and read many expositions of different parts of the Bible. Some have been very fanciful-but were supported only by supposition and speculation. Many have been, in some way, in opposition to other parts of the Scriptures or to the writings of Ellen White. However, as I read Brother Pippenger's explanation of Daniel 11:40-45, I found much valid support for his interpretation both from the Bible and from the Spirit of Prophecy. Revelation is woven into the total picture so that we can truly see how Daniel and Revelation complement each other that as Ellen White has said they should.

A dominant theme stands out. We are in the last days of the time of the end. Soon "Michael [shall] stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation ... and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book." Daniel 12: 1.

Brother Pippenger seeks to demonstrate through this book how close we really are to the end of time, so that we will awaken out of our slumber and prepare souls for Christ's kingdom.

May the message herein burn in your heart and light the fire of preparation and outreach in your life.

### **INTRODUCTION by Ron Spear**

WE are living in the most solemn time of the six thousand years of the great controversy. Now is the end-time, and we have the honor and the privilege of being the last generation. Only those who are seeking after truth and righteousness with all their heart will endure unto the end and be saved:

And ye shall seek me, and find me, when ye shall search for me with all your heart. Jeremiah 29:13.

Only those who are studying the Scriptures and their prophecies will recognize the final events and prepare their characters for eternal life:

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 2 Timothy 2:15.

Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. John 5:39.

The books of Daniel and Revelation are to be carefully studied and understood in the closing moments of our probation:

Those who eat the flesh and drink the blood of the Son of God will bring from the books of Daniel and Revelation truth that is inspired by the Holy Spirit. They will start into action forces that cannot be repressed. The lips of children will be opened to proclaim the mysteries that have been hidden from the minds of men.

We are standing on the threshold of great and solemn events. Many of the prophecies are about to be fulfilled **in quick succession**. Every element of power is about to be set to work. Past **history will be repeated**; old controversies will arouse to new life, and peril will beset God's people on every side. Intensity is taking hold of the human family. It is permeating everything upon the earth....

Study Revelation in connection with Daniel, for **history will be repeated....** We, with all our religious advantages, ought to know far more today than we do....

Angels desire to look into the truths that are revealed to the people who with contrite hearts are searching the Word of God and praying for greater lengths and breadths and depths and heights of the knowledge which He alone can give.

As we near the close of this world's history, **the prophecies relating to the last days especially demand our study**. The last book of the New Testament Scriptures is full of truth that we need to understand. Satan has blinded the minds of many so that they have been glad of any excuse for not making the Revelation their study. But Christ through His servant John has here declared what shall be in the last days; and He says, "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein." Revelation 1:3. *Testimonies to Ministers*, 116-117.

Those who Place themselves under God's control, to be led and guided by Him, **will catch the steady tread of the events** ordained by Him to take place. Inspired with the Spirit of Him who gave His life for the life of the world, they will no longer stand still in impotency, pointing to what they cannot do. Putting on the armor of Heaven, they will go forth to the warfare, willing to do and dare for God, knowing that His omnipotence will supply their need. *Testimonies*, vol. 7, 14.

The third angel's message of warning must now be shouted from our housetops and pulpits through the mighty demonstration of the Holy Spirit:

The theme of greatest importance is the third angel's message, embracing the messages of the first and second angels. All should understand the truths contained in these messages and demonstrate them in daily life, for this is essential to salvation. We shall have to study earnestly, prayerfully, in order to understand these grand truths; and our power to learn and comprehend will be taxed to the utmost. *Evangelism*, 196.

Through the inspired testimony God warns:

The close study of Daniel's visions and warnings is essential. The first words of the Revelation mean, not a book closed, but a book opened. Where did John get the light? Did it originate with the aged disciple?-No. "The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto him, to shew unto his servants things **which must shortly come to pass**; and he sent and signified it by his angel unto his servant John: who bare record of the word of God, and of the testimony Of Jesus Christ, and of all things that he saw. Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy, and keep those things which are written therein." Revelation 1. 1-3. *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 19, 166.

All who join the ranks of Sabbathkeepers should become diligent Bible students, that they may know the pillars and groundwork of the truth. **They should study prophetic history, which has brought us down point by point to where we are at the present time**. This is God's plan for our school. Young men should attend who desire to become educated for any line of work, who have capabilities, and see the necessity of learning more and still more where we stand today in prophetic history, uniting **link after link in the prophetic chain**, even from Genesis to Revelation. Christ is the Alpha, the first link, and the omega, the last link, of the gospel chain, which is welded in Revelation. *Ibid.*, vol. 10, 171.

Our time for work is limited, and God calls us as ministers and people to be minuteman. Teachers as wise as serpents and as harmless as doves must come to the help of the Lord, to

the help of the Lord against the mighty. There are many who do not understand the prophecies relating to these days, and **they must be enlightened.** *Evangelism*, 237.

Let us not forget that the ancient prophets spoke more for our day than for their day:

Paul writes concerning the experiences of the people of God in ancient times, "All these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come." I Corinthians 10:11. **The prophets spoke less for their own time than for the ages which have followed, and for our own day.** Peter says: "Of which salvation the prophets have inquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace that should come unto you: searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into." I Peter 1: 10-12. *Signs of the Times*, April 2, 1896.

**The Bible has accumulated and bound up together its treasures for this last generation. All the great events and solemn transactions of Old Testament history have been, and are, repeating themselves in the church in these last days.** ...There the whole accumulated truths are presented in force to us that we may Profit by their teachings. We are under the influence of the whole. What manner of persons ought we to be to whom all this rich light of inheritance has been given. Concentrating all the influence of the past with new and increased light of the present, accrued power is given to all who will follow the light. Their faith will increase, and be brought into exercise at the present time, awakening an energy and an intensely increased earnestness, and through dependence upon God for His power to replenish the world and send the light of the Sun of Righteousness to the ends of the earth. *Selected Messages*, book 3, 339.

Jeff Pippenger presents a view of the prophecy found in the last six verses of Daniel 11, which draws together material that provides an outline of the final events of earth's history consistent with Adventist understanding of these final movements. In closing the introduction to this important material, let us once again quote our prophet:

The time has come for Daniel to stand in his lot. The time has come for the light given him to go to the world as never before. If those for whom the Lord has done so much will walk in the light, their knowledge of Christ and the prophecies relating to Him **will be greatly increased as they near the close of this earth's history.** *The Seventh day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 4, 1174.

## PART 1 -THE DIVINE CATALYST

IN the Millerite movement, which began in the 1830s and culminated in the great disappointment of 1844, momentum was added as God revealed that the truths which they were preaching were on the verge of fulfillment. This catalyst of prophetic confirmation will be repeated under the loud cry of the fourth angel:

Heretofore those who presented the truth of the third angel's message have often been regarded as mere alarmists. Their predictions that religious intolerance would gain control in the United States, that church and state would unite to persecute those who keep the commandments of God, have been pronounced groundless and absurd... But **as the question of enforcing Sunday observance** is widely agitated, the event so long doubted and disbelieved **is seen to be approaching**, and the third message **will produce an effect which it could not have had before.** *The Great Controversy*, 605-606.

As the pioneers came to understand the prophecies of Daniel, and recognized their fulfillment, they were strongly motivated to give the first, second, and third angels' messages to the world. The book of Daniel again confirms signs which are happening with ever-increasing rapidity in our world today, and thus we also are encouraged to go

forth in vigor to "prophesy again before many peoples, and nations, and tongues, and kings." Revelation 10: 1 1.

### **The Final Rapid Movements**

An important factor in the following passage is that the final movements will be rapid ones. In Daniel 11:40-45, the primary focus is on the rise and fall of the king of the north. These verses primarily deal with papal Rome, and are best understood as a series of quick events.

The following quotation from *Testimonies*, volume 9, states that the final scenes of Daniel II are about to be completed, and that they are expressed in the language of severe distress. Sister White connects Isaiah 24 with the time which points to **the changing of laws, and the ordinances, and the breaking of the everlasting covenant**. Evidently, these final scenes of Daniel have to do with Sunday laws and the trouble that follows.

The whole world is going to be brought to an eternal decision as the three angels' messages swell into a loud cry, but the prophetic focus is on the part of the world known as **Christendom**. To understand this prophetic sequence we should view these scenes within the setting of the Christian world. We will address this point further when we deal with Daniel 11:42.

We are living in the time of the end. The fast-fulfilling signs of the times declare that the coming of Christ is near at hand. The days in which we live are solemn and important. **The Spirit of God is gradually but surely being withdrawn from the earth**. Plagues and judgments are already falling upon the despisers of the grace of God. The calamities by land and sea, the unsettled state of society, the alarms of war, are portentous. They forecast approaching events of the greatest magnitude.

The **agencies of evil are combining their forces and consolidating**. They are strengthening for the last great crisis. Great changes are soon to take place in our world, and **the final movements will be rapid ones**.

The condition of things in the world shows that troublous times are right upon us. The **daily papers are full** of indications of a terrible conflict in the near future. Bold robberies are of frequent occurrence. Strikes are common. Thefts and murders are committed on every hand. Men possessed of demons are taking the lives of men, women, and little children. Men have become infatuated with vice, and every species of evil prevails.

The enemy has succeeded in perverting justice and in filling men's hearts with the desire for selfish gain. "Justice standeth afar off. for truth is fallen in the street, and equity cannot enter." Isaiah 59:14. In the great cities there are multitudes living in poverty and wretchedness, well-nigh destitute of food, shelter, and clothing; while in the same cities are those who have more than the heart could wish, who live luxuriously, spending their money on richly furnished houses, on personal adornment, or worse still, upon the gratification of sensual appetites, upon liquor, tobacco, and other things that destroy the powers of the brain, unbalance the mind, and debase the soul. The cries of starving humanity are coming up before God, while by every species of oppression and extortion men are piling up colossal fortunes....

There are not many, even among educators and statesmen, who comprehend the causes that underlie the present state of society. **Those who hold the reins of government are not able to solve the problem of moral corruption, poverty, pauperism, and increasing crime. They are struggling in vain to place business operations on a more secure basis**. If men would give more heed to the teaching of God's Word, they would find a solution of the problems that perplex them.

The Scriptures describe the condition of the world just before Christ's second coming. Of the men who by robbery and extortion are amassing great riches, it is written: "Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days. Behold, the hire of the labourers who have reaped down your fields, which is of you kept back by fraud, cries of them which have reaped are entered into the ears of the Lord of sabaoth. Ye have lived in pleasure on the earth, and been wanton; ye have nourished your hearts, as in the day of slaughter. Ye have condemned and killed the just; and he doth not resist you." James 5:3-6.

But who reads the warnings given by the fast-fulfilling signs of the times? What impression is made upon worldlings? What change is seen in their attitude? No more than was seen in the attitude of the inhabitants of the Noachian world. Absorbed in worldly business and pleasure, the antediluvians "knew not until the flood came, and took them all away." Matthew 24:39. They had heaven-sent warnings, but they refused to listen. And today the world, utterly regardless of the warning voice of God, is hurrying on to eternal ruin.

The world is stirred with the spirit of war. **The prophecy of the eleventh chapter of Daniel has nearly reached its complete fulfillment. Soon the scenes of trouble spoken of in the prophecies will take place.**

"Behold, the Lord maketh the earth empty, and maketh it waste, and turneth it upside down, and scattereth abroad the inhabitants thereof ... **because they have the laws, changed the ordinance, broken the everlasting covenant.** Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate.... The mirth of tabrets the noise of them that rejoice endeth, the joy of the **harp** ceaseth." Isaiah 24:1, 5-6, 8.

"Alas for the day! for the day of the LORD is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come. . . . The seed is rotten under their clods, the garners are laid desolate, the barns are broken down; for the corn is withered. How do the beast groan! The herds of cattle are perplexed, because they have no pasture; yea, the flocks of sheep are made desolate." "The vine is dried UP, and the fig tree languisheth; the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, even all the trees of the field, are withered: joy is withered away from the sons of men." Joel 1:15,17-18,12.

"I am pained at my very heart; ... I cannot hold my peace, because thou hast heard, O my soul, the sound of the trumpet, the alarm of war. Destruction upon destruction is cried; for the whole land is spoiled." Jeremiah 4:19-20.

"I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down." Verses 23-26.

"Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it." Jeremiah 30:7.

Not all in this world have taken sides with the enemy against God. Not all have become disloyal. There are a faithful few who are true to God; for John writes: "Here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith Of Jesus ." Revelation 14:12. Soon the battle will be waged fiercely between those who serve God and those who serve Mm not. Soon everything that can be shaken will be shaken, that those things that cannot be shaken may remain.

Satan is a diligent Bible student. He knows that his time is short and he seeks at every point to counterwork the work of the Lord upon this earth. **It is impossible to give any idea of the experience of the people of God who shall be alive upon the**

**earth when celestial glory and a repetition of the persecutions of the past are blended. They will walk in the light proceeding from the throne of God.** By means of the angels there will be constant communication between heaven and earth. And Satan, surrounded by evil angels, and claiming to be God, will work miracles of all kinds, to deceive, if Possible, the very elect. God's people will not find their safety in working miracles, for Satan will counterfeit the miracles that will be wrought. God's tried and tested people will find their power in the sign spoken of in Exodus 31:12-18 They are to take their stand on the Living Word: "It is written.". This is the only foundation upon which they can stand securely. Those who have broken their covenant with God, will in that day be without God and without hope.

**The worshipers of God will be especially distinguished by their regard for the fourth commandment,** since this is the sign of God's creative power and the witness to His claim upon man's reverence and homage. The wicked will be distinguished by their efforts to tear down the Creator's memorial and to exalt the institution of Rome. In the issue those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, and of the conflict **all Christendom** will be divided into two great classes, those who worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark. Although church and state will unite their power to compel all, "both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond," to receive the mark of the beast, yet the people of God will not receive it. Revelation 13:16. The prophet of Patmos beholds "them that had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name, stand on the sea of glass, having the harps of God," and singing the song of Moses and the Lamb. Revelation 15:2.

Fearful tests and trials await the people of God. The spirit of war is stirring the nations from one end of the earth to the other. But in the midst of the time of trouble that is coming—a time of trouble such as has not been since there was a nation—God's chosen people will stand unmoved. Satan and his host cannot destroy them, for angels that excel in strength will protect them. *Testimonies*, vol. 9, 11-17.

## **2- THE MODERN SCHOOL OF THE PROPHETS**

WE as Seventh-day Adventists have accepted the call of the Master Teacher, and He has called us into His school of higher learning. No doubt there are several course assignments in His school, but without question one course we have been enrolled in is prophecy:

As a people, **we are called individually to be students of prophecy.** We must watch with earnestness that we may discern any ray of light which God shall present to us. We are to catch the first gleamings of truth; and through prayerful study, clearer light may be obtained, which can be brought before others. *Counsels to Writers and Editors*, 41.

As with all fields of learning, it is necessary to identify and understand specific rules in order to master the course. Perhaps the first to learn is the following:

**Each of the ancient prophets spoke less for their own time than for ours, so that their prophesying is in force for us.** "Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come." I Corinthians 10:11. "Not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into." 1 Peter 1:12. *Selected Messages*, book 3, 338.

### **Our Day and Age**

Prophecy was recorded with the crisis of **our day in mind**. Until we recognize this rule and mix it with faith, we will fail to rightly apply prophetic information. We must glean from past prophecies information which is designed to guide and forewarn God's people of the dangers and trials of these times, for we are those "upon whom the ends of the world are come."

Prophecy has been fulfilling, line upon line. **The more firmly we stand under the banner of the third angel's message**, the more clearly shall we understand the prophecy of Daniel; for the Revelation is the supplement of Daniel. The more fully we accept the light presented by the Holy Spirit through the consecrated servants of God, the deeper and surer, even as the eternal throne, will appear **the truths of ancient prophecy**; we shall be assured that men of God spake as they were moved upon by the Holy Ghost. Men must themselves be under the influence of the Holy Spirit in order to understand the Spirit's utterances through the prophets. **These messages were given, not for those that uttered the prophecies, but for us who are living amid the scenes of their fulfillment.** Ibid., book 2, 114.

### A Prophetic People

Seventh-day Adventists are a people of prophecy in many ways. We were raised up in fulfillment of prophecy (1844); we have possibilities of fulfilling holy prophecies (144,000); or wicked prophecies (spewed out of His mouth); and our church began as the early pioneers studied prophecy. We are clearly told to study prophecy, for not only will we catch the "steady tread of events" but also the correct understanding of prophecy will be a catalyst for the revival and reformation which we so desperately need:

God's Spirit has illuminated every page of Holy Writ, but there are those upon whom it makes little impression, because it is imperfectly understood. When the shaking comes, by the introduction of false theories, these surface readers, anchored nowhere, are like shifting sand. They slide into any position to suit the tenor of their feelings of bitterness.... **Daniel and Revelation must be studied**, as well as the other prophecies of the Old and New Testaments. Let there be light, yes, light, in your dwellings. For this we need to pray. The Holy Spirit, shining upon the sacred page, will open our understanding, that we may know what is truth....

There is need of a much closer study of the Word of God; **especially should Daniel and the Revelation have attention as never before in the history of our work.** We may have less to say in some lines, in regard to the Roman power and the Papacy; but we should call attention to what the prophets and apostles have written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit of God. The Holy Spirit has so shaped matters, **both in the giving of the prophecy and in the events portrayed**, as to teach that the human agent is to be kept out of sight, hid in Christ, and that the Lord God of heaven and His law are to be exalted. Read the book of Daniel. Call up, point by point, the history of the kingdoms there represented....

The light that Daniel received from God was given especially for these last days. The visions he saw by the banks of the Ulai and **Hiddekel**, the great rivers of Shinar, are now in process of fulfillment, and **all the events foretold will soon come to pass.**

Consider the circumstances of the Jewish nation when the prophecies of Daniel were given.

Let us give more time to the study of the Bible. We do not understand the Word as we should. The book of Revelation opens with an injunction to us to understand the instruction that it contains. "Blessed is he that readeth, and they that hear the words of this prophecy," God declares, "and keep those things which are written therein: for the time is at hand." Revelation 1:3. **When we as a people understand what this book means to us, there will be seen among us a great revival.** We do not understand

fully the lessons that it teaches, notwithstanding the injunction given us to search and study it. *Testimonies to Ministers*, 1 12-113.

Prophecy is best understood after it comes to pass, but that fact should never stop us from a prayerful search to understand that which can be comprehended in advance of its fulfillment. William Miller did not confine his studies to prophecies that had already come to pass.

The purpose of this book is to draw together, through passages from the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy, an understanding of Daniel 11:40-45.

Let us now take a brief overview of these six verses before studying them in greater detail in the following chapters.

### **A Simple Overview**

In Daniel 11:40 the atheistic power of France begins warring against Roman Catholicism and takes the pope captive in 1798. French atheism continues to grow as a philosophy, and eventually matures into the ideology of Communism. The ideology of Communism becomes a viable force in our world when its supporters ignite the Bolshevik Revolution in 1917. From the birth of the Soviet Union, the warfare of atheism against Catholicism was maintained until the collapse of that country in 1989. From the seedbed of the French Revolution the king of the south matured into Communism, and then after the Bolshevik- Revolution continued his warfare against the king of the north up until the fall of the Soviet Union.

In the past few years Catholicism has come up against the former Soviet Union "like a whirlwind." Catholicism is the king of the north.

True to its character, the Catholic power allied with a military power in this struggle. In agreement with Revelation 13, this power is the United States. It used economic and military pressure as a means to accomplish this attack, and ultimately, as we have seen, "entered into the countries and passed over." This verse has already been fulfilled. At this point, we are living between verses 40 and 41.

### **On the Horizon**

In Daniel 11:41 Rome, the "king of the north," will enter the United States through the passage of a national Sunday law. Many people at this point will begin to receive the mark of the beast, but there will be a group who will respond to the beginning of the loud cry of the three angels' messages. These people are symbolically called Edom, Moab, and Ammon. Remember, **the final movements will be rapid ones**, and these events are unexpected:

Transgression has almost reached its limit. Confusion **fills** the world, and a great terror is soon to come upon human beings. The end is very near. We who know the truth should be preparing for what is soon to break upon the world **as an overwhelming surprise**. *Testimonies*, vol. 8, 28,

In Daniel 11:42 the pope extends his influence over the entire world. In verse 43 the deadly wound is healed as the Papacy returns to the position of the ruling geopolitical power of the world, which is symbolically identified by its assuming control of the finances of the world. This domination will be complete, including both the affluent Western World and the destitute Third World countries.

In Daniel 11:44 the effects of the loud cry, or latter rain, are perceived by the pope and his allies, and, being angry with the results they intensify to maximum strength the persecution-which **has already begun**. This attempt by the Papacy to prevent the

message of the loud cry divides the world into two classes in preparation for the battle of Armagedon.

In verse 45 we see the pope as he attempts to stand between the message being given by God's faithful ones and the people to whom they are giving the message. God's people are represented by the "glorious holy mountain," and the rest of the people of the world are identified as the "seas." The stage is thus set for Armageddon, and it is then that the Papacy comes to its end.

### 3- HISTORY REPEATED

SISTER White says that the history described in Daniel 11:30-36 will be repeated in the **final** movements of earth's history:

We have no time to lose. Troublous times are before us. The world is stirred with the spirit of war. Soon the scenes of trouble spoken of in the prophecies will take place. **The prophecy of the eleventh chapter of Daniel** has nearly reached its complete fulfillment. **Much of the history that has taken place in fulfillment of this prophecy will be repeated.** in the thirtieth verse a power is spoken of that "shall be grieved, and return, and have indignation against the holy covenant: so shall he do; he shall even return, and have intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant. And arms shall stand on his part, and they shall pollute the sanctuary of strength, and shall take away the daily sacrifice, and they shall place the abomination that maketh desolate. And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits.

"And they that understand among the people shall instruct many: yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, many days. Now when they shall fall, they shall be holpen with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with flatteries. And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end: because it is yet for a time appointed.

"And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done." Daniel 11:30-36.

#### **Scenes similar to those described in these words will take place.**

We see evidence that Satan is fast obtaining the control of human minds who have not the fear of God before them. Let all read and understand the prophecies of this book, for we are now entering upon the time of trouble spoken of. [Daniel 12:1-4, quoted.] *Manuscript Releases, vol. 13, 394.*

If we understand the historic fulfillment of the prophecy just referred to by Sister White, we will have a good point of reference.

#### **The Man of Sin**

Verse 36 is the verse which Paul paraphrases to describe the characteristics of popery:

And the king shall do according to his will; and **he shall exalt himself**, and **magnify himself above every god**, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done. Daniel 11:36.

Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come a falling away first, and that **man of sin** be revealed, **the son of perdition**; who opposeth and **exalteth himself** above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so

that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4.

Daniel 11:30-36 identifies the rise of the Papacy at the beginning of the 1260 years. Sister White, while describing the transition of pagan Rome into papal Rome, ties both Daniel 11:36 and 2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 together confirming that the subject of both is "the man of sin."

This compromise between paganism and Christianity resulted in the development of "**the man of sin**" foretold in prophecy as opposing and exalting himself above God. That gigantic system of false religion is a masterpiece of Satan's power—a monument of his efforts to seat himself upon the throne to rule the earth **according to his will**. *The Great Controversy*, 50.

The "man of sin" of Thessalonians is "the king [which] shall do according to his will; and ... shall exalt himself ' in Daniel I 1: 36.

Sister White says **much of the history** of these verses will be repeated, and **scenes similar to these will be repeated**, Let us look one more time at the scenes of this history.

### **North or South?**

In Daniel 11 we see the history of the world from Persia to the fall of modern Babylon. This history is prophetically traced by following an ongoing interplay between the king of the north and the king of the south. The first four verses take us to the dividing of Alexander the Great's kingdom to his four generals. Only two of those generals continue on past verse four. One general controls Egypt, which is identified as the south; the other controls Babylon, which is called the north.

These two generals were Ptolemy, and Seleucus. Ptolemy controlled Egypt, and was, therefore, the king of the south. Seleucus controlled Asia Minor and the Near East including Babylon, and was, therefore, the king of the north. The history which unfolds from this point on is well documented by historians, as well as Adventist pioneers. The rule of thumb in identifying who is the king of the south or the north, is who controls Egypt or Babylon.

### **Pagan Rome Arrives on the Scene**

The descendants of Ptolemy and Seleucus have an ongoing interchange until verse 16, when we see one which comes against the king of the north, "and none shall stand before him: and he shall stand in the glorious land, which by his hand shall be consumed." This newcomer on the scene not only stands in the glorious land, which is Judea, but he ultimately takes control of all the former dominion of Alexander the Great. By so doing he assumes the prophetic title of king of the north. This new king of the north was pagan Rome.

From verse 16 onward we see Rome as the king of the north traced through the history of Daniel I 1. By verse 22 we see "the prince of the covenant," "broken." The Prince of the covenant was Christ; and He was "broken at the cross"—by the authority of Rome.

After verse 22 the prophecy drops back into history to trace the methodology Rome used in conquering the king of the south. Rome took control of countries many times through treaties or pacts. Verse 23 is speaking of the treaty which Rome made with the Jews in 162 B.c. At that time Rome was a "small people."

Verse 24 tells us that Rome would continue to take control of countries through treaties and pacts while consuming the "fattest places of the province." None before had

taken the world captive through developing alliances, and therefore he did, "that which his fathers have not done, nor his fathers' fathers."

### **Pagan Rome's Time Prophecy**

Verse 24 continues on to set forth a time prophecy concerning Rome's allotted time to rule. It states that he shall "forecast his devices against the strong holds, **even for a time.**"

From the city of Rome, pagan Rome ruled supreme for a "time," or 360 prophetic days or 360 literal years. Augustus Caesar's decisive victory of the battle of Actium in 31 B.C. marks the beginning of pagan Rome's control of the world, and 360 years later, in A.D. 330, when the capital of the Roman Empire was transferred from Rome to Constantinople, its rulership came to an end. Historians point to this removal of the imperial capital from Rome to Constantinople as the beginning of the end for pagan Rome, which, as we have seen, was given a prophetic time period to exist, just as was papal Rome.

### **The First Sunday Laws**

After the delineation of the history of pagan Rome, verse 29 describes the closing scenes of pagan Rome's authority. Here we see Constantine moving the capital away from Rome at the "time appointed." In verse 30 we see his "indignation against the holy covenant" as he introduces the first Sunday laws.

We are told that when the United States passes a national Sunday law, national apostasy will be followed by national ruin. After Constantine issues his Sunday laws the Roman Empire begins to crumble. In former years when Rome warred against their enemies they found victory-but no longer. Verse 29 states that he will, "come toward the south; but it shall not be as the former, or as the latter."

From this point we will examine the verses which Sister White specifically identifies as scenes and histories which will be repeated.

### **Scenes and Histories Which Will Be Repeated**

The "ships of Chittim" of verse 30 are the Vandals. Their continued military success was weakening Rome, and as the emperor of Eastern Rome went out to do battle against them, he was defeated, or "grieved." In an attempt to oppose the Arian beliefs of the three horns of the Heruli, Goths, and Vandals, Justinian appointed the bishop of Rome as the head of the Christian church and the corrector of heretics. By doing so he had "indignation against the holy covenant," and had "intelligence with them that forsake the holy covenant." Thus was the transition of Roman power from pagan to papal under way.

Sister White points out that much of the history in Daniel 11 will be repeated as Daniel 11 reaches its complete fulfillment. She specifically points to Daniel 11:30-36, which is the very passage which describes the transition of pagan Rome to papal Rome. As the modern day "man of sin" returns to power, the history which describes the "man of sin's" first rise to power is highlighted by the Spirit of Prophecy as a history in which we should expect to see similarities and repetitions.

### **Seven Pagan Horns**

The transition from pagan to papal Rome identified in Daniel 11: 3036 is also addressed in Daniel 7, which teaches that three horns would be plucked up from the ten horns, in order for one stout horn to fill their places. These three horns are the "ships of Chittim," of Daniel 11:30 which were coming against pagan Rome. As the three horns of Daniel 7 continue to grieve Rome in her ability to control the world, we see a deliverer arise out of the other seven horns of Daniel 7.

Up until this time, the seven nations of Europe were pagans, and had not been sympathetic to Roman Catholicism, but prophecy states that arms shall stand on his part." In fulfillment of this, Clovis, King of France, came to the military aid of the Papacy, and France became the first Catholic nation. Clovis dedicated his sword and his throne to the Papacy in A.D. 508, and then began the war against the three horns-the Goths, Vandals, and Heruli.

### **Paganism Removed**

When Clovis dedicated his crown to the Papacy, the pagan powers of Europe followed his lead. The pagan forces of Europe which had formerly been resisting Catholicism joined with the Roman church. The pagan aspect of these seven nations is symbolized in the word "daily" in verse 31.

The "daily" symbolizes **paganism's resistance to Christianity**. When paganism was "take[n] away," and it then supplied an army for the pope, it prepared the way for the worst resistance against true Christianity to be set up-that being, "the abomination that maketh desolate," which is the Papacy. This was accomplished in A.D. 538 when the last of the three horns of Daniel 7 was removed, and the Papacy took the throne of the world.

The next verse begins the narrative of the history of God's people in relation to the Papacy; it also notes a technique used by the Papacy to secure support. When Clovis dedicated himself to the Papacy he was given titles such as, "Most Christian Majesty," and "Eldest Son of the Church," for the Vatican used "flatteries" to win supporters.

### **The Time of the End**

Verses 32-35 describe the ordeal of the faithful, and identify **the time of the end** as "a time appointed." The time prophecy identifying pagan Rome's time to rule the world is found in verse 24. In verse 29, we see **the end** of pagan Rome's allotted time period identified as "the time appointed." The phrase "time appointed" in Daniel 11 is identifying **the end of the prophetic time period** which pagan and then papal Rome were to rule the world.

"The time of the end," in verse 35, is historically located as occurring at the "time appointed." Other prophecies in Daniel and Revelation identify the 1260 year time period during which papal Rome would rule the world. These prophecies establish the starting point for this rule as A.D. 538 and the termination point as 1798. Through the phrase "the time appointed" we see Daniel identifying when "the time of the end" would occur in history. 1798 is the time of the end, and 1798 is where Daniel 11:40 and our subsequent study begins. We have previously identified verse 36 as describing the "man of sin," while the verses which follow continue to list the characteristics of the Papacy.

## **PART 2**

### **4- TERRITORIES, HORNS, AND WALLS**

As sister White counsels us to look for a repetition of "much of the history" of "the eleventh chapter of Daniel," we find another parallel which adds insight into the final six verses.

#### **The Territories-and Pagan Rome**

In describing the conquest of the world by pagan Rome, Daniel identified three territories which were to be subdued by **pagan** Rome as it brought the world under its dominion:

And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great, toward the **south**, and toward the **east**, and toward the **pleasant land**. Daniel 8:9.

### **The Horns-and Papal Rome**

In Daniel 7:8, 20, Daniel identifies three horns which were to be removed before **papal** Rome brought the world under its dominion:

I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were **three of the first horns** plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking great things....

And of the ten horns that *were* in his head, and *of* the other which came up, and **before whom three fell**; even of that horn that had eyes, and a mouth that spake very great things, whose look *was* more stout than his fellows.

### **The Walls-and Modern Babylon**

As we proceed to address Daniel 11:40-45, we will find that the first three verses in this sequence identify three areas of conquest which are subdued as the king of the north takes control of the world. These three areas are the former Soviet Union, the United States, and finally the entire world. These three areas have symbolic walls associated with themselves, which are removed as the Papacy rises to its final position as the head of the world.

The first symbolic wall was the former '**iron curtain**,' represented by the literal Berlin Wall, the destruction of which was a milestone in the rapid disintegration of the Soviet Empire.

Before the Papacy enters the United States through the passage of a national Sunday law, the symbolic 'wall **of separation of church and state**' will have to be removed. It will be accomplished by the politicians and justices of this land, as a result of the pressure brought upon them by the Protestant and Catholic voters of this country. The pressure is already mounting and can easily be verified through the testimony given within the secular presses. This second **wall** of attack for the Papacy is already being threatened.

The third wall which the Papacy will bring down in order to take control of the entire world **is** the symbolic 'wall **of national sovereignty**.' The likely, structure which will be used to control the world is the United Nations. Already within the laws which have been developed by the United Nations, we find the legal principles designed to remove national sovereignty. This organization has already written and passed laws which supersede the national laws of individual countries. In fact, many of these countries-including the United States-have already signed these agreements, Placing the laws of the individual nations in subjection to the laws of the world government.

### **Similar Scenes**

The three territories which pagan Rome conquered as it rose to power were brought into subjection by the military conquests of the Roman armies. The three horns which were removed to place the Papacy on the throne of the world were also conquered by military forces. These military forces, although not Rome's, had dedicated Serves to fight for the Papacy.

In the rise to power of modern Babylon, we see three walls brought down to prepare the way for the pope to rule again. This time, a spiritual takeover is described. However, as is always the case, when Rome finally has secured her seat of authority-persecution will begin:

God's Word has given warning of the impending danger; let this be unheeded, and **the Protestant world will learn what the purposes of Rome really are, only when it is too late to escape the snare.** She is silently growing into power. **Her doctrines are exerting their influence** in legislative halls, in the churches, and in the hearts of men. She is piling up her lofty and massive structures **in the secret recesses of which her former persecutions will be repeated.** Stealthily and unsuspectedly she is strengthening her forces to further her own ends **when the time shall come for her to strike.** All that she desires is vantage ground, and this is already being given her. We shall soon see and shall feel what the purpose of the Roman element is. Whoever shall believe and obey the Word of God will thereby incur reproach and persecution. *The Great Controversy, 581.*

### **The Impregnable Wall**

The first of the three walls has already fallen, and the two remaining walls are now being removed. Prophecy points out that all of these walls will come down in the final, rapid movements of earth's history. These walls symbolize the obstacles which the Papacy must overcome to completely heal its deadly wound. There is, though, another **wall of separation, which** will come under attack during this march of the king of the north. This wall is **the identifying issue** of the attack upon all three of the symbolic walls. This wall will stand firm, even though the entire world will unite to tear it down:

I saw that if God had changed the Sabbath from the seventh to the first day, He would have changed the writing of the Sabbath commandment, written on the tables of stone, which are now in the ark in the Most Holy Place of the temple in heaven; and it would read thus: The first day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God. But I saw that it read the same as when written on the tables of stone by the finger of God, and delivered to Moses on Sinai. "But the seventh day is the sabbath of the LORD thy God." Exodus 20:10. **I saw that the holy Sabbath is, and will be, the separating wall between the true Israel of God and unbelievers;** and that the Sabbath is the great question to unite the hearts of God's dear, waiting saints. *Early Writings, 33.*

### **5- THE NORTHERN KING**

WHO is the "king of the north?" Although I believe it is clear who this king is, this subject has been under discussion in Adventism for years. Many of the pioneers viewed him as the Papacy:

When men come in who would move one pin or pillar from the foundation which God has established by His Holy Spirit, let the aged men who were pioneers in our work speak plainly, and **let those who are dead speak** also, by the reprinting of their articles in our periodicals. *Manuscript Releases, vol. 1, 55.*

God has given me light regarding our periodicals. What is it?-He has said that the dead are to speak. How?-Their works shall follow them. We are to repeat the words of the pioneers in our work, who knew what it cost to search for the truth as for hidden treasure, and who labored to lay the foundation of our work. They moved forward step by step under the influence of the Spirit of God. One by one these pioneers are passing away. The word given me is, **Let that which these men have written in the past be reproduced.** *Counsels to Writers and Editors, 28.*

It is true that there are prophecies yet to be fulfilled. But very erroneous work has been done again and again, and will continue to be done by those who seek to find new light in the prophecies, and who begin by turning away from the light that God has already given. **The messages of Revelation 14 are those by which the world is to be tested;** they are the everlasting gospel, and are to be sounded everywhere. But the Lord does not lay upon those who have not had an experience in His work the burden of

making a new exposition of those prophecies which He has, by His Holy Spirit, moved upon His chosen servants to explain. *Selected Messages*, book 2, 111-112.

### **Pioneer Position**

Two early pioneers give their view of this last power in Daniel 11:

Michael is to stand up at the time that the last power in [Daniel] chapter 11, comes to his end, and none to help him. This power is the last that treads down the true church of God: and as the true church is still trodden down, and cast out by all Christendom, it follows that the last oppressive power has not "come to his end;" and Michael has not stood up. **This last power that treads down the saints is brought to view in Revelation 13:11-18. His number is 666.** James White, *A Word to the Little Flock*, 8-9.

Historical events, showing the direct fulfillment of prophecy, were set before the people, and the prophecy was seen to be a figurative delineation of events leading down to the close of this earth's history. **The scenes connected with the working of the man of sin are the last features plainly revealed in this earth's history.** *Selected Messages*, book 2, 102.

We are in error if we seek to interpret prophecy in a way which is inconsistent with correct prophetic interpretations of the past. The last clear views of prophecy concern the Papacy; the pioneers proclaimed the power "that comes to his end and none shall help him," as being the Papacy. We are told that prophecy is a "figurative delineation of events" fulfilled by historical events. Events in our recent history have fulfilled verse 40:

We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. 2 Peter 1: 19-21.

### **Daniel Defines Daniel**

The second reason we can conclude that the king of the north is the Papacy, is the Bible rule that later prophecies amplify, expand, and confirm former prophecies. Within the book of Daniel itself one must conclude that the last power standing against God and His people at the time probation closes is Rome.

In the book of Daniel there are four prophecies set forth which Jesus commands us to understand. "When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand.)" Matthew 24:15. Within the four prophecies of Daniel is found the strongest evidence possible that the king of the north is, in fact, the Papacy.

The first prophecy of Daniel, found in chapter 2; describes four powers-namely, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome. These are followed by the final kingdom-the stone which is cut out of the mountain "without hands," which destroys all the other kingdoms, and which fills the whole earth.

The second prophecy of Daniel, found in chapter 7, describes the same four kingdoms that are found in chapter 2- but, as is true throughout Bible prophecy, it adds more information to that previous picture. It also shows that the fourth kingdom, (Rome) exists until the final judgment, and until Christ sets up His eternal kingdom.

The third prophecy of Daniel found in chapter 8, covers essentially the same ground, once again adding more information, but this time not concerning the first

kingdom (Babylon), as it was about to give way to the Medes and Persians. However, the last kingdom, which is very clearly Rome as it was to stand up against the Prince of princes, was to be "broken without hands."

In the vision of Daniel, chapters 10-12, once again the first kingdom of Babylon is not spoken of, as it had already left the scene of history. The prophecy begins with the Medes and Persians, followed by Greece. Are there some who would say that the final kingdom is not Rome?

All three of the previous prophecies of Daniel place papal Rome at the end of the world where she receives her punishment. Two of these refer to her judgment as supernatural punishment, "without hands" and "broken without hands." Likewise this last power in chapter 11 "comes to his end, and none shall help him." This indicates the inability of human strength to prevent his final end.

It would be out of context to look at these four prophecies and not to view them as composite prophecies which complement and build on one another. These prophecies portray the complete picture of the message that Daniel was to seal up. Each one builds on the previous prophecy and enlarges upon it, but never does it contradict the previous presentation.

### **Overlapping Symbols**

Babylon is the head of gold-the lion.

Medo-Persia is the breast and arms of silver-the bear, and the ram.

Greece is the thighs of brass-the leopard, the he goat, and the mighty king.

Rome is the legs of iron and the feet of iron and clay-the ten-horned beast, the little horn. Moreover, without contradiction the **king of the north** is also Rome.

## **PART 3**

### **MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT**

Modern Babylon can be identified as the "man of sin," or as the Papacy, or as the pope, or as the threefold union of Catholicism, apostate Protestantism, and spiritualism, or simply as Catholicism. All of these entities have a valid consideration in the term "modern Babylon," but the verses under consideration in this study have to do with the head of all these entities-which **is the Papacy, or the pope of Rome.**

### **The Testimony of Two Rivers**

The third reason we can identify the king of the north as the pope can be found in the story of two rivers:

The light that Daniel received from God was given especially for these last days. The visions he saw by the banks of **the Ulai** and **the Hiddekel**, the great rivers of Shinar, are now in process of fulfillment, and all the events foretold will soon come to pass. *Testimonies to Ministers, 112-113.*

The Ulai river is associated with the vision of Daniel 8. The Hiddekel river is associated with Daniel's vision concerning the king of the north.

The portion of the vision of Daniel 8 which was "in process of fulfillment" when Sister White penned this counsel was the work going on in the Most Holy Place of the heavenly sanctuary. This vision, or the story of the Ulai river, reaches its complete **fulfillment** at the close of probation.

Daniel 11:40 begins "at the time of the end," which is 1798. Therefore the portion of the vision of Daniel 11 which was in process of fulfillment when Sister White

wrote the previous statement was verses 40-45. The testimony of these verses continues into Daniel 12, and Daniel 12:1 identifies when Michael stands up-which is the close of human probation. Just as in the vision of "the Ulai," the vision of the Hiddekel river reaches its complete fulfillment as human probation comes to its end. The vision of the Hiddekel, in contrast to the vision of the Ulai, concerns the efforts of the "man of sin" to prevent the completion of the work going on in the Most Holy Place of the heavenly sanctuary .

The Ulai and the Hiddekel are two rivers with two different, though interrelated, messages, but both messages come to a completion at the end of the world-just as both rivers flowed into the same sea.

The twofold message of the visions of both rivers are Daniel's counterpart of the three angels' messages of Revelation 14, for the three angels' messages also tell the story of the everlasting gospel in connection with the final work of judgment going on in the heavenly sanctuary above. They also identify the "man of sin" who will attempt to have the whole world receive the mark of his authority.

In Revelation 15:2 John describes those who have entered into the experience symbolized by the Ulai river as standing on "**a sea of glass mingled with fire,**" for in the battle against the king of the north, they "had gotten the victory over the beast, and over his image, and over his mark, and over the number of his name." The vision of the river Ulai prophetically ends at the sea of glass.

In Revelation 19:20 John describes the end of the king of the north the Papacy-by stating: "the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his **image**. These both were **cast alive into a lake of fire** burning with brimstone." The vision of the river Hiddekel prophetically ends at the lake of fire.

## **6- THE SEQUENCE BEGINS - VERSE FORTY**

AND at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him- and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over.

### **Nine Questions About This Verse:**

1. When is the "time of the end"?
2. Who is the "king of the south"?
3. What does "push" mean?
4. Who is the "king of the north"?
5. What is meant by to "come against like a whirlwind"?
6. What are "chariots" and "horsemen"?
7. What are "ships"?
8. What are "countries"?
9. What does "overflow and pass over" mean?

### **Question 1. When is the "time of the end"?**

1. The time of the end began in 1798:

But **at the time of the end**, says the prophet, "many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased." Daniel 12:4.... Since **1798** the book of Daniel has been unsealed, knowledge of the prophecies has increased, and many have proclaimed the solemn message of the judgment near. *The Great Controversy*, 356.

## Question 2. Who is the "king of the south"?

2. The word south comes from the Hebrew referring to Egypt. It means the and desert, south of Judea." (fr **south-5045**: from an unused root mean. to be parched; the south (from its drought); spec. the Negeb or southern district of Judah, occasionally, **Egypt** (as south to Pal.): -south (country, side,-ward). *The New Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible*, 1984 edition.

Woe to the rebellious children, saith the LORD, that take counsel, but not of me; and that cover with a covering, but not of my spirit, that they may add sin to sin: that walk to go down into **Egypt**, and have not asked at my mouth; to strengthen themselves in the strength of Pharaoh, and to trust in **the shadow of Egypt!** Therefore shall the strength of Pharaoh be your shame, and the trust in **the shadow of Egypt** your confusion. For his princes were at Zoan, and his ambassadors came to Hanes. They were all ashamed of a people that could not profit them, nor be an help nor **profit**, but a shame, and also a reproach. The burden of **the beasts of the south**: into the land of trouble and anguish, from whence come the young and old lion, the viper and **fiery** flying serpent, they will carry their riches upon the shoulders of young asses, and their treasures upon the bunches of camels, to a people that shall not **profit** them. For the Egyptians shall help in vain, and to no purpose: therefore have I cried concerning this, their strength is to sit still. Isaiah 30:1-7.

Sister White, when describing the characteristics of France in *The Great Controversy*, defines the symbols used in the book of Revelation which describe the French Revolution. Revelation 11:8 figuratively identifies France as "the great city," and calls it "spiritually" "Sodom and Egypt." Egypt in this context is symbolic of atheism:

"The **great city**" in whose streets the witnesses are slain, and where their dead bodies lie, is "**spiritually**" **Egypt**. Of all nations presented in Bible history, Egypt most boldly denied the existence of the living God, and resisted His commands. No monarch ever ventured upon more open and high-handed rebellion against the authority of Heaven than did the king of Egypt. When the message was brought him by Moses, in the name of the Lord, Pharaoh proudly answered, "Who is Jehovah, that I should hearken unto His voice to let Israel go? I know not Jehovah and moreover I will not let Israel go." Exodus 5:2, A.R.V. **This is atheism, and the nation represented by Egypt would give voice** to a similar denial of the claims of the living God, and would manifest a like spirit of unbelief and defiance. "The great city" is also compared, 11 spiritually," to Sodom. The corruption of Sodom in breaking the law of God was especially manifested in licentiousness. And this sin was also to be a pre-eminent characteristic of the nation that should fulfill the specifications of this scripture.

According to the words of the prophet, then, **a little before the year 1798** some power of satanic origin and character would rise to make war upon the Bible. And in the land where the testimony of God's two witnesses should thus be silenced, there would be manifest **the atheism of the Pharaoh** and the licentiousness of Sodom.

**This prophecy has received a most exact and striking fulfillment in the history of France.** During the Revolution, in 1793, for the first time heard an assembly of men, born and educated in civilization, and assuming the right to govern one of the finest of the European nations, uplift their united voice to deny the most solemn truth which man's soul receives, **and renounce unanimously the belief and worship of a Deity.**"-Sir Walter Scott, *Life of Napoleon*, vol. 1, ch. 17. "**France is the only nation in**

**the world concerning which the authentic record survives, that as a nation she lifted her hand in open rebellion against the Author of the universe.....**  
**Blackwood's Magazine, November 1870. *The Great Controversy*, 269-270.**

In the French Revolution not only was the Word of God denied but also God Himself. Notice that symbolically the term "great city" is used to identify a nation. We will apply this prophetic symbol again in this study:

**By the decree of the French Government, declaring that the nation acknowledged no God, the Old and New Testaments were slain throughout the limits of Republican France....** On the 1st of November, 1793, Gobet, with the Republican priests of Paris, had thrown off the gown, and abjured Religion. On the 11th, a "Grand Festival," dedicated to "Reason and Truth," was celebrated in the Cathedral of Notre Dame, which had been desecrated, and been named "the Temple of Reason." George Croly, *The Apocalypse of St. John*, 175-177.

In 1793, the decree **passed the French Assembly suppressing the Bible.** Just three years after, a resolution was introduced into the Assembly going to supersede the decree, and giving toleration to the Scriptures. That resolution lay on the table six months, when it was taken up, and passed without a dissenting vote... on the 17th of June. George Stoffs, *Midnight Cry*, Volume 4, Nos 5-6, 47.

When a **nation voices** something, it is symbolic of the actions of its government. The communistic type of government is built around laws denying God (atheism) and expressing unbelief in the Word of God:

The "**speaking**" of the nation is the action of its legislative and judicial authorities. *The Great Controversy*, 442.

In Revelation 11:7 and also Revelation 17:8 we have a power that came out of a bottomless pit, which symbolically means that it has no **foundation in the Word of God.** The French revolution lacked the support of the Word of God, for it was founded and sustained upon atheism. In Exodus 5:2, "Pharaoh said, **Who is the LORD**, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? **I know not the LORD**, neither will I let Israel go."

### **A Most Important Rule**

The identification of the "king of **the south**" in the prophecy of Daniel 11 is determined by which power conforms to the characteristics of **Egypt.**

In prophetic study, a prophecy which is applied before the time of the cross is understood as **literal** in its application. After the time of the cross, a prophecy is recognized in its **symbolic** application. This rule is consistent. In 1798 the power which is identified in the Bible as possessing the characteristics of Egypt is France. France was the king of the south in 1798.

### **Revolution**

The principle which Pharaoh proclaimed is the same principle which actuated the French Revolution. This principle would continue to develop into an ideology which would eventually take the form of a communistic government beginning with the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917.

The revolution of atheism in France continued to propagate itself until it matured into the revolution of Communism in Russia. As the Soviet Union began its attempt to control the world, country after country was confronted with *the weapon of atheism-revolution.*

Almost all of the nations where these revolutions were successful in bringing the governments under the domain and influence of the Soviet Union had formerly been under the dominion of the Papacy. Communism's ongoing revolutions allowed the Papacy to identify the Soviet Union as a common enemy, both of the Papacy and of the United States. The *common enemy* ploy prepared the way for the alliance of verse 40 and Revelation 13:

**Worldwide dissemination** of the same teachings that led to the French Revolution-[is] tending to involve the whole world in a struggle similar to that which convulsed France. *Education, 228.*

The king of the south began his attack during the time of the French Revolution by taking the pope captive, thus inflicting the deadly wound, but it continued its war against Catholicism throughout the history of the Soviet Union.

In time, the prophecy states that the king of the north would return and sweep away the king of the south.

### **Question 3. What does "push" mean?**

3. The word translated 'push' means to war against:

I saw the ram **pushing** westward, and northward, and southward; so that no beasts might stand before him, neither was there any that could deliver out of his hand; but he did according to his will, and became great. Daniel 8:4.

**push-505** *push.* *Strong's.* 5: push; to butt with horns; fig. to war against: gore, Push symbolizes a war initiated at the "time of the end" (1798), by the "king of the south" (atheism), against the "king of the north" (the Papacy).

### **Question 4. Who is the "king of the north"?**

4. The 'king of the north' is the Papacy:

Behold, I will send and take all **the families of the north**, saith the LORD, and Nebuchadrezzar the king of **Babylon**, my servant, and will bring them against this land, and against the inhabitants thereof, and against all these nations round about, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, and an hissing, and perpetual desolations. Jeremiah 25:9.

For thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I will bring upon Tyrus Nebuchadrezzar **king of Babylon**, a king of kings, **from the north**, with horses, and with chariots, and with horsemen, and companies, and much people. Ezekiel 26:7; see also Jeremiah 46:2, 20.

The woman (**Babylon**) of Revelation 17 is described as "arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness ... and upon her forehead was a name written, *MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS.*" Says the prophet "I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus." Babylon is further declared to be "that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth." Revelation 17:4-6, 18. The power that for so many centuries maintained despotic sway over the monarchs of Christendom **is Rome.** *The Great Controversy, 382.*

Prophecy applied **before** the cross is understood in its local and literal setting; prophecy applied **after** the cross is understood in its symbolic setting. For example, modern Israel is the Seventh day Adventist Church, so too, modern Babylon is the Papacy.

### Question 5. What is meant by to "come against like whirlwind"?

5. Whirlwind is to take away fearfully like a storm, and describes a mighty, sweeping away, and an ascendancy:

**come** 8175: a prim. root; to storm; by impl. to shiver, i.e. fear:-be (horribly) afraid, fear, hurl as a storm, be tempestuous, come like (take away as with) a whirlwind.

**against-5921**: same as 5920. 5920: from 5927. 5927: Prim. root; **to ascend**, intrans. (be high) or act. (mount); used in great variety of senses, primary and secondary, lit. and fig. (as follow): -arise (up), (cause to) ascend up.

In the time of the end the king of the south (atheism) will wage a war against the king of the north (the Papacy), but in time the king of the north (the Papacy) will return, and will come against the king of the south (Communism) as a mighty storm and will sweep away the king of the south. Then the king of the north will arise up or ascend at the same time.

### Question 6. What are "chariots" and "Horsemen"?

6. Chariots and horsemen symbolize military Strength:

Then Adonijah the son of Haggith exalted himself, saying, I will be king: and **he prepared him chariots and horsemen**, and fifty men to run before him. I Kings 1:5.

And Ben-hadad the king of Syria gathered all his host together: and there were thirty and two kings with him, and **horses, and chariots**: and he went up and besieged Samaria, and **warred against it**. I Kings

When the king of the north (the Papacy) arises and sweeps away the king of the south (Communism), he will use military strength to bring it about:

**Support will be withdrawn** from those who proclaim God's only standard of righteousness, the only sure test of character. And all who will not bow to the decree of the national councils, and obey the national laws to exalt the sabbath instituted by the man of sin to the disregard of God's holy day, will feel, **not the oppressive power of popery alone, but of the Protestant world**, the image of the beast. . . . *Selected Messages*, book 3, 385.

### Question 7. What are "ships"?

7. Ships symbolize economic strength:

They that go down to the sea **in ships, that do business** in great waters. Psalm 107:23.

She is like **the merchants' ships**; she bringeth her food from afar. Proverbs 31:14.

For in one hour so **great riches** is come to nought. And every shipmaster, and all **the company in ships**, and sailors, and as many as **trade by sea**, stood afar off, and cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto this great city! And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas, that great city, **wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea** by reason of her costliness! for in one hour is she made desolate. Revelation 18:17-19.

Through economic pressure the king of the north sweeps away the king of the south. The king of the south succumbs to a combination of economic and military power, the same two characteristics that the Papacy and its image will use to force the world to receive the mark of the beast. See Revelation 13:15-17.

### **Question 8. What are "countries"?**

8. The "countries" spoken of here represent the countries that were under the king of the south's control. If nothing else, this fact tells us that the king of the south had a group, or confederation of countries. These countries of the king of the south were the satellites of the U.S.S.R.

### **Question 9. What does "overflow and pass over" mean?**

9. To **overflow** is to rush, or wash away; and to **pass over** is to cross over or overrun:

**overflow-7857:** a prim. root; to gush; by imp]. to inundate, cleanse; by anal. to gallop, conquer: -drown, (over-) flow (-wheim), rinse, run, rush, (thoroughly) wash (away).

**pass-5674:** a prim. root; to cross over. *Strong's*.

### **The Final Analysis**

In 1798 the king of the south, France, began an ongoing war against the king of the north, Catholicism. Atheism continued to develop its ideology, and reached another stage of growth at the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917. Communism continued the war against Catholicism, attempting to bring the former empire of papal Rome into its grasp, but in time, Catholicism mounted an overwhelming counterattack. The king of the north swept away the entire structure of the king of the south, entering, into all the countries of the former Soviet Union.

This overwhelming attack came with the military and economic aid of the United States. This alliance repeats the history of Clovis, when "arms shall stand on his part." It points to Revelation 13, teaching that soon the United States will speak as a dragon, and then force the world to also form an image to the beast. Daniel 11:40 is the first historical manifestation of this end-time **unholy alliance**.

## **part 4**

### **7- THE STARTING GUN IS FIRED**

CAN this interpretation of verse 40 be verified by world events? Certainly history attests to the fact that Communism has waged a severe attack against Roman Catholicism throughout its existence as a force in the world. Moreover, we have seen that the Soviet Union has been swept away before our very eyes. Present-day news reporters and historians have pointed out that the main power which forced this rapid disintegration of the Soviet Union was Catholicism, along with its ally, the United States.

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However, God does not leave this testimony without its own prophetic waymarks confirming this event of history as the fulfillment of prophecy.

### **Secular Confirmation**

Some of the articles written by secular news reporters describing the unfolding of this present-day event, without spiritual insight, use the very words that Daniel was inspired to use as he portrayed these very events hundreds of years in advance. They also confirm the historical overview of the war between these two powers, and connect the ongoing war between Communism and the Papacy as part of the story of the disintegration of the U.S.S.R. The use of these key words is God's way of confirming the interpretation of this event, so that those who desire to see, may see:

**"Gorby's Bow To The Roman Legions"** Title in the *U.S. News & World Report*, December 1989.

When the Holy Roman Emperor Henry IV decided to seek pardon of Pope Gregory VII in 1077, he stood barefoot for three days in the snow outside the papal quarters in Canossa, Italy. **Gorbachev's concordat with the church was no less significant in its way.** *Time*, December 11, 1989.

The Soviet president's session Friday with Pope John Paul II is the latest development of **a revolution in the Communist world that the pope helped spark** and Gorbachev has allowed to happen. *U.S.A. Today*, cover story, December 1989.

**Until recently**, the battalions of **Marxism seemed to have the upper hand** over the soldiers of the Cross. In the wake of the Bolshevik Revolution of 1917, Lenin had pledged toleration but delivered terror. "Russia turned crimson with the blood of martyrs," says Father Gleb Yakunin, Russian Orthodoxy's bravest agitator for religious freedom. In the Bolsheviks' first five years in power, 28 bishops and 1,200 priests were cut down by the red sickle. Stalin greatly accelerated the terror, and by the end of Khrushchev's rule, liquidation of the clergy reached an estimated 50,000. After World War II, fierce but generally less bloody persecution spread into the Ukraine and the new Soviet bloc, affecting millions of Roman Catholics and Protestants as well as Orthodox. *Time*, December 4, 1989.

In private meetings with heads of state, back room consultations with dissident groups and persistent propagandizing for his crusade against tyranny, he [John Paul II] has helped bring about the greatest policy change since the Russian Revolution. *Life*, December 1989.

His [Pope John Paul II] triumphant tour of Poland in 1979, says Polish bishop, altered the "mentality of fear, the fear of police and tanks, of losing your job, of not getting promoted, of being thrown out of school, of failing to get a passport. People learned that if they ceased to fear the system, the system was helpless." Thus was born Solidarity, backed by the church and led by such friends of the pope as Lech Walesa and Tadeusz Mazowiecki, who subsequently became the Soviet bloc's first Christian Prime Minister. *Time*, December 4, 1989.

### **Words of Interest**

In 1935 Josef Stalin, absolute ruler of the Soviet Union, was given some unsolicited advice. Make a propitiatory gesture to the Vatican, he was told. **Pushed** too far, his country's Catholics might become counterrevolutionary. Stalin's great mustache amplified his sneer. "The Pope. And how many divisions has he?" The answer then was that he has none. The answer now is that he *needs* none. **The structures of Communism are crumbling to the touch.** *Life*, December 1989.

The **rush** to freedom in Eastern Europe is a sweet **victory for John Paul II**. *Ibid.*

The word **rush** is the verb used to describe the spread of this freedom. **He shall overflow, (rush), and pass through.** The word **pushed** was chosen by this secular author to describe the battle that Communism was waging against Catholicism. **The king of the south pushed** against the **king of the north.**

Of all the events that have shaken the Soviet bloc in 1989, none is more fraught with history-or more implausible- than the polite encounter to take place this week in Vatican City. There, in the spacious ceremonial library of the 16th century Apostolic Palace, **the czar of world atheism**, Mikhail Gorbachev, will visit the Vicar of Christ, Pope John Paul II

The moment will be electric, not only because John Paul helped inflame the fervor for freedom in his Polish homeland that **swept like brush fire across Eastern Europe**. Beyond that, the meeting of the two men **symbolizes** the end of the 20th century's most dramatic **spiritual war**, a conflict in which the seemingly irresistible force of Communism battered against the immovable object of Christianity. *Time*, December 4, 1989.

While Gorbachev's hands-off policy was the immediate cause of the chain reaction of liberty that has **swept through Eastern Europe** in the past few months, John Paul deserves much of the longer-range credit. *Ibid*.

The word is **swept**, and the definition for **come against like a whirlwind** is to **sweep away**. The author views this event as putting an end to the twentieth century's most dramatic spiritual war, without even knowing of the spiritual war between the king of the south and the king of the north. This author also identifies Gorbachev as the czar of world atheism as opposed to being identified as the czar of world Communism. Secular authors recognize Communism as atheism.

**The Triumph Of John Paul** 11-The **tide** of freedom **washing over** Eastern Europe answers his most fervent prayer. *Life*, December, 1989.

Here again the word **overflow** means to gush, or wash away as with water. Who was choosing these words for these secular reporters?

**"Days of the Whirlwind"** Title in *Newsweek*, December 25, 1989.

The article was describing the fall of Communism. Somehow this secular author thought the best word to describe the fall of Communism was the same word Daniel used to describe how the **king of the north**, comes against the **king of the south-like a whirlwind**.

### **Chariots and Horsemen**

In 1981, the communist bloc got another shock. A new American President, Ronald Reagan, began fulfilling his promise to challenge the Soviets, not placate them. Over the next few years, he accelerated the **military buildup** and announced the **Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI)**, a space-based system for protecting against missile attack. He backed anti-communist rebels in Nicaragua, Angola, Cambodia, and Afghanistan. And with American troops, he liberated the island of Grenada from Communist thugs.

The Soviets' confidence was shaken .... The Western Europeans also pressured the Soviets. NATO forged ahead with military modernization. German voters spurned Soviet "peace overtures" and elected a government that voted to deploy new intermediate-range missiles...**Military pressure from America** and its Western allies had caused the Soviets to flinch. *Reader's Digest*, March 1990.

### **With Many Ships**

Gorbachev has also grasped the fact that political and **economic survival** depends upon the goodwill of the Soviet people, among whom Christians have always outnumbered Communists. Gorbachev, moreover, needs the cooperation of the West, observes Father Mark, a reform-minded Orthodox priest in Moscow, who considers Gorbachev's program within the U.S.S.R. "a result of foreign policy necessity." *Time*, December 4, 1989.

Economic stress places Gorbachev 'between a rock and a hard place:

In the 1980s, **communist economies**, always inefficient, **went belly up**. Before, they had lacked consumer and luxury goods. Now perennial shortages of staples worsened as well. When Soviet miners went on strike in 1989, their demands included soap, toilet paper, and sugar. *Reader's Digest*, March 1990.

For Gorbachev, the ferment in the Baltics **is shaking** not just a small corner of the empire built by Lenin and Stalin, but **the foundations of the empire** itself. The nationalities question is a potent distillation of many other signs, from **a crumbling economy** to violent ethnic clashes, that the breathtaking disintegration of the Soviet empire in Eastern Europe may not stop at the Soviet border. As **the economy deteriorates** and shortages grow, public disillusionment with Communism and with Gorbachev himself is rising, and hostile republics, nationalities and interests groups are competing more fiercely for political power and for shares in **the shrinking economy**. Corruption and crime are rampant; miners and railway workers threaten to cut off fuel supplies during the bitter winter; Azerbaijanis cut the rail line to an Armenian enclave in their midst; farmers hoard food, leaving city shelves bare. *U.S. News and World Report*, January 15, 1990.

### **The Whirlwind Begins**

With the Pope's support, Solidarity (Polish Labor Union) was formed, and John Paul II sent word to Moscow that if Soviet forces crushed Solidarity, he would go to Poland and stand with his people. The Soviets were so alarmed that they hatched a plot to kill him.... The Pope cautioned Solidarity leaders, particularly his friend Lech Walesa, to proceed slowly. They did. In 1988 General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish communist leader, went to them offering a deal. Solidarity insisted on an election, which it carried with some 80 percent of the vote. **When the communist government fell, the impact on Eastern Europe was electrifying.** *Reader's Digest*, March 1990.

When Tadeusz Mazowiecki took over in August 1989 as Poland's first non-Communist prime minister in forty-five years, he was asked if he was a socialist. **"I am a Catholic,"** he answered tersely. *U.S. News and World Report*, May 21, 1990.

Last year Lithuania's two leading bishops were returned to head dioceses after a combined 53 years of internal exile, and the cathedral in Vilnius, previously used as an art museum, was restored for worship. This year the Belorussian republic got its first bishop in 63 years. That paved the way for Archbishop Angelo Sodano, who oversees the Vatican's foreign relations, to make the arrangements for Gorbachev's historic visit to the Holy See.

These **concessions to Catholicism** are only part of Gorbachev's religious liberalization. *Time*, December 4, 1989.

Three new Catholic bishops have recently been named in Czechoslovakia. And this month Gorbachev meets Pope John Paul II during Kremlin and the Vatican. The sessions may lead to legalization of the long-banned Ukrainian Catholic Church in the U.S.S.R. *Life*, December 1989.

The revival of religious freedom is expected to include lifting of an official ban on the five-million-member Ukraine Catholic Church, which has survived underground since 1946 when Stalin ordered it absorbed into the Russian Orthodox Church. **Winning legalization for the Ukrainian Church has been a primary aim of the pope's.** Officials in the Soviet Union say they will clear the way for legalization by permitting Ukrainian Catholics to register, as other religious groups are now required to do under Soviet law. *U.S. News and World Report*, December 11, 1989.

**He shall enter into the countries and pass through.** This prophecy is certainly being fulfilled. Amid the wonderful stories of evangelistic triumphs in Eastern

Europe at this time, rest assured that the Catholic Church is moving rapidly to reclaim its stranglehold once again on these **countries**. This verse implies that she does just this, as she (Catholicism) **passes through**. Our window of opportunity is indeed very short.

### **The Man of Sin's Deadly Wound**

Adding here a thought outside the scope of this particular study, Revelation says that the Vatican received a deadly wound which would be healed. It received that wound when Napoleon captured the pope in 1798-the **time of the end**. Is it an accident that the pope who is guiding the efforts of the northern kingdom at the time when the southern kingdom is swept away, received a physical deadly wound himself?

It is of interest that it was this same **king of the south**, Communism, which allegedly ordered the **king of the north**, the pope, to be killed. Also interesting is the fact that this northern king is the first pope in history whose name adds up to the number 666. (See this equation at the end of a visit to Italy-the first face-to-face encounter between leaders of the this chapter.):

In May 1981, before a vast audience in St. Peter's Square, Pope John Paul was shot and severely wounded by Mehmet Ali Ağa. There was 1989. Immediate speculation that the Turkish gunman had been sent by East bloc plotters from Bulgaria, sponsored by the Soviet secret police. Their aim: to silence **the one man capable of shaking the foundations of international Communism**. *Life*, December, 1989

In the book, *Keys of This Blood*, Malachi Martin goes to great pains to illustrate that this assassination attempt was viewed by John Paul 11 as **divine** evidence that he should be the pope to ascend to the throne of the world. However, that is another study. Suffice it to say that Pope John Paul 11 was actively involved in a struggle against the king of the south long before he became pope:

In Poland the freedom movement was born almost three decades ago when the bishop of Krakow sought approval to build a new church. When Communist authorities denied his application, the bishop had a giant cross erected and celebrated open-air masses. The Communist tore it down. The church members replaced it over and over until finally the Communists gave up. *Jubilee*, April 1990.

### **That bishop of Krakow is now-Pope John Paul III!**

World news tells the story that **Catholicism, allied with the United States**, used **economic and military pressure** to force the collapse of Communism. As it fell, the Catholic Church seized the moment and went at once about its business of regaining control of the **countries**. This alliance between the first and the second beast of Revelation 13 should not take us by surprise, but it should wake us up.

Time magazine, February 24, 1992, chose the title, "**Holy Alliance**," to discuss this coming together of these two powers. The articles in *Time* describing this alliance discuss the cooperation between the United States and the Vatican as they sought to bring down Communism. Concerning **the deadly wound that was healed**, in a caption connected with two photographs showing the assassination attempts of both the pope and of Ronald Reagan, the following statement was made:

A **Common Brush With Death-At** their first meeting, Reagan and John Paul 11 discussed something else they had in common: both had survived assassination attempts that occurred only six weeks apart in 1981, and both believed **God had saved them for a special mission**. And both referred to the "**miraculous** fact that they had survived."

The magazine elaborates on the secret nature of this alliance, as it was done in darkness, so to speak; it mentions the closeness of the Vatican and the leadership of the

United States, pointing out that many advisors to President Reagan were Catholic. It draws the connection between the Vatican and the labor unions, and identifies Solidarity as one of the main players in this intrigue. It also labels the use of our military, the CIA, [a or unions, and finances, as key tools in this collaboration Sinister indeed was this unholy alliance:

Only President Ronald Reagan and Pope John Paul II were present in the Vatican Library on Monday, June 7, 1982. It was the first time the two had met, and they talked for fifty minutes....

In that meeting, **Reagan and the pope agreed to undertake a clandestine campaign to hasten the dissolution of the communist empire.** Declares Richard Allen, Reagan's first National Security Adviser: "**This was one of the great secret alliances of all time.**" . . .

"Reagan came in with very simple and strongly held views," says Admiral Bobby Inman, former deputy director of the CIA. "It is a valid point of view that he saw the collapse (of communism) coming and he **pushed** it-hard." During the first half of 1982, a **five-part strategy** emerged that was aimed at bringing about the collapse of the Soviet economy....

[1.] "The U.S. defense buildup already under way, aimed at making it too **costly** for the Soviets to compete **militarily** with the U.S. Reagan's Strategic Defense Initiative-Star Wars-became a centerpiece of the strategy.

[2.] "Covert operations aimed at encouraging reform movements in Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Poland.

[3.] "**Financial aid** to Warsaw Pact nations calibrated to their willingness to protect human rights and undertake political and free-market reforms.

[4.] "**Economic isolation** of the Soviet Union and the withholding of Western and Japanese technology from Moscow. The Administration focused on denying the U.S.S.R. what it had hoped would be its principal source of hard currency in the twenty-first century: profits from a transcontinental pipeline to supply natural gas to Western Europe. : '

[5.] Increased use of Radio Liberty, **Voice of America** and Radio Free Europe to transmit Administration's messages to the peoples of Eastern Europe....

"Like all great and lucky leaders, the Pope and President **exploited the forces of history** to their own ends." *Time*, February 4, 1992, 29-30.

Carl Bernstein, the author of this *Time* magazine article, co-authored and published a book in 1996, titled *His Holiness*, which presents a detailed account of the secret alliance which took place between the Vatican and the United States in order to bring about the collapse of the Soviet Union.

The most incredible part of this entire history is that God through Daniel concisely described the events of such enormous significance in Just one verse, containing only fifty words.

As already noted, there will be **scenes similar to these, history will be repeated**, and "**arms shall stand on his part.**" Daniel II: 31.'

### Summary

In summary, sometime around 1798 atheism was to come on the scene of history and begin a war against Catholicism that would continue until the battle would be reversed. Then the Catholic Church was to come against Communism (the modern

fruition of atheism), symbolized by the Soviet Union, and would sweep away its entire structure.

This action was to involve an alliance between Rome and the United States, using military pressure (**chariots and horses**), economic pressure (**ships**), and intrigue to bring the U.S.S.R. to collapse, at which time Catholicism was to **sweep** into the former Eastern bloc countries and begin to reassert her former domination. Brothers and sisters, it has come to pass.

Consider Matthew 24:15, and Revelation 13:9, "Whoso readeth, let him understand," and "If any man have an ear, let him hear."

Verse 41 states, symbolically, that the next area of conquest for the king of the north in his march to control the entire world is the United States. Then, through economic and military power, the United States will force the entire world to pay homage to Catholicism. This prepares the way for the Papacy to take control of the world:

Romanists declare that "the observance of Sunday by the Protestants is an **homage** they pay, in spite of themselves, **to the authority of the [Catholic] Church..... The enforcement of Sunday keeping on the part of Protestant churches is an enforcement of the worship of the Papacy- of the beast.** Those who, understanding the claims of the fourth commandment, choose to observe the false instead of the true Sabbath are thereby **paying homage** to that power by which **alone** it is commanded. But in the very act of enforcing a religious duty by secular power, the churches would themselves form an image to the beast; hence the enforcement of Sunday keeping in the United States would be an enforcement of the worship of the beast and his image. *The Great Controversy, 448-449.*

**HOMAGE**, n. 1. *In feudal law, the submission, loyalty and service which a tenant promised to his lord or superior, when first admitted to the land which he held of him in fee; or rather the act of the tenant in making this submission, on being invested with the fee. The ceremony of doing homage was thus performed. The tenant, being ungirt and uncovered, kneeled and held up both his hands between those of the lord, who sat before him, and there professed that "he did become his man, from that day forth, of life and limb and earthly honor," and thus received a kiss from his lord. Blackstone.* 2. Obeisance; respect paid by external action. 3. Reverence directed to the Supreme Being; reverential worship; devout affection. *American Dictionary of The English Language, Noah Webster, 1828.*

### **Entering the Glorious Land**

The "glorious land" is a land where God chose to allow the last message of mercy to develop in its infancy in 1844, and finally to mature into the loud cry of Revelation 18.

The "glorious land" **is not** the "glorious holy mountain" of verse 45. A land and a mountain are different. Just as ancient Israel was provided a land to prosper and to present the message to the world, so modern Israel also has been provided an asylum to do the same work in a modern setting.

In verse 40 the word **countries** is in the original, and points to the different countries making up the former U.S.S.R., but in verse 41 the *word countries* is supplied. So in view of this fact, when the king of the north enters the United States through the passage of a national Sunday law, **many** shall be overthrown, **not** many *countries*.

Those overthrown are the ones who come into the clasp of the iron hand of Rome by accepting the national Sunday law. Those who escape are those responding to the beginning of the loud-cry message under the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, which

begins in earnest when the national Sunday law is passed. I am not suggesting that the latter rain does not begin shortly before the passage of the national Sunday law, but that it intensifies greatly at that time, as God's people recognize the long-awaited fulfillment of the prophecies. Edom, Ammon, and Moab symbolize those who begin to respond to this last message of mercy.

**\* Pope John Paul II's Latin name. No other pope's Latin name in history has had this numerical equivalent.**

I=1

O

A

N

E

S

P

A

U = 5

L =50

U =10

S

S

E

C = 100

U = 5

N

D = 500

O

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**Total 666**

## **8- THE LONG-AWAITED SUNDAY LAW - VERSE FORTY-ONE**

**He** shall enter also into the glorious land, and many *countries* shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon.

After sweeping through the domain of the king of the south, the king of the north now enters his next geographical area. This time though, instead of gaining a complete domination, a group is identified which escape from his hand. First, let us identify the glorious land.

## The Glorious Land

The Lord provided a **goodly** or **glorious land** for ancient Israel, and He provided a **goodly** or **glorious land** for modern Israel. The purpose for both was the same. It was **an asylum for His people**, and **a depository for His pure religion**:

**glorious-6643**: in the sense of prominence; splendor (as **conspicuous**), beautiful, **goodly**. Strong's.

The Lord has done more for **the United States** than for any other **country** upon which the sun shines. **Here** He provided an asylum for His people, where they could worship Him according to the dictates of conscience. **Here** Christianity has progressed in its purity. The life-giving doctrine of the one Mediator between God and man has been freely taught. God designed that this **country** should ever remain free for all people to worship Him in accordance with the dictates of conscience. He **designed** that its civil institutions, in their expansive productions, should represent the freedom of gospel privileges. *Maranatha*, 193.

The following passage is very important. Sister White first presents a passage where the prophet Jeremiah is clearly identifying the land which ancient Israel was given as an inheritance from the Lord. Then Sister White uses this passage to lead into an identification of the role which the United States plays for modern Israel:

In those days the house of Judah shall walk with the house of Israel, and they shall come together **out of the land of the north to the land that I have given for an inheritance** unto your fathers. But I said, How shall I put thee among the children, and give thee **a pleasant land, a goodly heritage** of the hosts of the nations? and I said, Thou shalt call me, My father; and shalt not turn away from me. Jeremiah 3:18-19.

When **the land** which **the Lord provided as an asylum for His people**, that they might worship Him according to the dictates of their own consciences, **the land** over which for long years the shield of Omnipotence has been spread, **the land which God has favored** by making it the depository of the pure religion of Christ-when **that land** shall, through its legislators, abjure the principles of Protestantism, and give countenance to Romish apostasy in tampering with God's law-it is then that **the final work of the man of sin will be revealed**. *Signs of the Times*, June 12, 1893.

The people of **the United States have been a favored people**; but when they restrict religious liberty, surrender Protestantism, and give countenance to popery, the measure of their guilt will be full, and "national apostasy" will be registered in the books of heaven. The result of this apostasy will be national ruin. *Review and Herald*, May 2, 1893.

**Our land** is in jeopardy. The time is drawing on when its legislators shall so abjure the principles of Protestantism as to give countenance to Romish apostasy. **The people for whom God has so marvelously wrought**, strengthening them to throw off the galling yoke of popery, will by a national act give vigor to the corrupt faith of Rome, and thus arouse the tyranny which only waits for a touch to start again into cruelty and despotism. With **rapid steps** are we already approaching this period. *The Spirit of Prophecy*, vol. 4, 410.

**America**, . . . where the greatest light from Heaven has been shining upon the people, can become the place of greatest peril and darkness because the people do not continue to practice the truth and walk in the *light*. *Selected Messages*, book 3, 387.

The **glorious or goodly land** was Palestine for ancient Israel, and it is the United States for modern Israel. The purpose of Palestine and the United States was

the same for both ancient and modern Israel. God has watched over His church and the land where He settled them that the truth might be fully proclaimed to the world.

### Hand Signs

Two characteristics prominent in the final movements of the **king of the north** are the clasping of hands, and the marching, or steps, or treading. The walling or marching, and the clasping of hands are spiritual terms employed by both Daniel and the Spirit of Prophecy which add to the continuity of this prophecy:

When our nation shall so abjure the principles of its government as to enact a Sunday law, Protestantism will in this act **join hands** with *poper*. *Testimonies*, vol. 5, 712.

How the Roman Church can clear herself from the charge of idolatry we cannot see. . . . And this is the religion which Protestants are beginning to look upon with so much favor, and which will eventually be united with Protestantism. This union will not, however, be effected by a change in Catholicism; for **Rome never changes**. She claims infallibility. It is Protestantism that will change. The adoption of liberal ideas on its part will bring it where it can **clasp the hand** of Catholicism. *Review and Herald*, June 1, 1886.

The Protestants of the United States will be foremost in **stretching their hands** across the gulf to **grasp the hand** of Spiritualism; they will reach over the abyss to **clasp hands** with the Roman power; and under the influence of this **threefold union**, **this country will follow in the steps** of Rome in **trampling** on the rights of conscience. *The Great Controversy*, 588.

By the decree enforcing the institution of the Papacy in violation of the law of God, **our nation** will disconnect herself fully from righteousness. When **Protestantism shall stretch her hand** across the gulf to **grasp the hand of the Roman power**, when **she shall reach over the abyss to clasp hands with Spiritualism**, when, under the influence of this **threefold union**, our country shall repudiate every principle of its Constitution as a Protestant and republican government, and shall make provision for the propagation of papal falsehoods and delusions, then we may know that the time has come for the marvelous working of Satan and that the end is near. *Testimonies*, vol. 5, 451.

In the movements now in progress in the United States to secure for the institutions and usages of the church the support of the state, Protestants are following **in the steps** of papists. Nay, more, they are opening the door for the Papacy to regain in Protestant America the supremacy which she has lost in the Old World. *The Great Controversy*, 573.

When a national Sunday law is passed in the United States, this country will symbolically join hands with Rome. It will also, symbolically begin to march, or follow, in the steps of Rome:

Can two walk together, except they be agreed? Amos 3:3.

### Those Who Join Hands

In this verse the word *countries* is supplied. Many countries will not be overthrown at the time of the national Sunday law, just many people. The previous verse refers to many countries as the former countries of the Soviet Union became prey for Rome, and the next verse speaks of countries as it describes the whole world coming under the dominion of Rome. However, this verse is dealing only with the national Sunday law in the United States, and at this point, only **many** will be overthrown, not many countries. Who are the people that will be overthrown?

**When** the law of God is made void the church will be sifted by fiery trials, and a **larger portion than we now anticipate**, will give heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. *Selected Messages*, book 2, 368.

The great issue so near at hand will weed out **those whom God has not appointed** and He will have a pure, true, sanctified ministry prepared for the latter rain.... *Ibid.*, book 3, 385.

As the storm approaches, **a large class who have professed faith in the third angel's message**, but have not been sanctified through obedience to the truth, **abandon their position, and join the ranks of the opposition**. *The Great Controversy*, 608.

In the absence of the persecution there have drifted into our ranks **men who appear sound** and their Christianity unquestionable, **but who, if persecution should arise, would go out from us**. *Evangelism*, 360.

The work which the church has failed to do in a time of peace and prosperity she will have to do in a terrible crisis under most discouraging, forbidding circumstances. The warnings that worldly conformity has silenced or withheld must be given under the fiercest opposition from enemies of the faith. And at that **time the superficial, conservative class, whose influence has steadily retarded the progress of the work, will renounce the faith and take their stand with its avowed enemies**, toward whom their sympathies have long been tending. *Testimonies*, vol. 5, 463.

These passages point out that a large class of superficial, conservative professors of the three angels' messages, who refused to enter into the experience of sanctification, will join the enemy. Also, the greater part of the people in our land will accept the mark of the beast at the time of the Sunday law. However, who are those who **escape**, and fill the places of those who leave the truth?

### **Different Escape Routes**

It is interesting to note that the word **escape** in this verse is different than the word translated **escape** in the very next verse. The people who escape this national Sunday law escape by *slipperiness*, and the verse says, **escape out of his hand**. The definition of this word brings to mind the type of slipperiness when one cannot hold onto a bar of soap in a tub of water. It slips right out of one's hand.

The most important distinction of this word's definition is that it identifies those who escape, as those who had formerly been in the hand of the king of the north. That is to say that these people had formerly been part of modern Babylon. The people who escape, slip out of Rome's hand; whereas, those which are overthrown clasp the iron fist of Rome:

**Escape-4422**: a prim. root; prop. to be smooth, i.e. (by impl.) to escape (as if by slipperiness); causat. to release or rescue; to bring forth young, emit sparks: -deliver (self), escape, lay, leap out, let alone, let go, preserve, save. *Strong's*.

### **Fleeing the Wrath to Come**

**When** those that "believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness" (2 Thessalonians 2:12), shall be left to receive strong delusion and to believe a lie, **then** the light of truth will shine upon all whose hearts are open to receive it, and **all the children of the Lord that remain in Babylon** will heed the call: "Come out of her, my people." Revelation 18:4. *Maranatha*, 173.

The law of God cannot be made void by the law of a nation. **When** the law is **trampled** in the dust, the sacredness of the commandments of God will be vindicated by

those who are loyal to Him. We are to make no railing accusation against the nations, for this would close our way so that we could not set the light before the people. Every objection raised against the commandments of God will make a way for the advancement of truth and enable its advocates to present its value before men. There is a beauty and force in the truth that nothing can make so apparent as opposition and persecution. **When** this is revealed, **many will be converted** to the truth. *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 12, 141-142.

### **The Closed Door**

Many who have known the truth have corrupted their way before

God and departed from the faith. The broken ranks will be filled up by those represented by Christ as **coming in at the eleventh hour**. There are **many with whom the Spirit of God is striving**.

The time of God's destructive judgments is the time of mercy for **those who have no opportunity to learn what is truth**. Tenderly will the Lord look upon them. His heart of mercy is touched; **His hand is still stretched out to save**, while **the door is closed to those who would not enter**. Large numbers will be admitted who in these last days hear the truth for the first time. *This Day With God*, 163.

### **The Eleventh-Hour Workers**

During this transition time when the **eleventh-hour workers** are receiving the love of the truth, 'those they are replacing in God's church have already closed their probations solemn thought indeed:

Before the final visitation of God's judgments upon the earth, there will be among the people of the Lord such a revival of primitive godliness as has not been witnessed since apostolic times. The Spirit and power of God will be poured out upon His children. At that time many will separate themselves from those churches in which the love of the world has supplanted love for God and His word. Many, both of ministers and people, will gladly accept those great truths which God has caused to be proclaimed at this time to prepare a people for the Lord's second coming.... Under a religious guise, Satan will seek to extend his influence over **the Christian world**. *The Great Controversy*, 464.

There are **diligent students of the word of prophecy** in all parts of the world, who are obtaining light and still greater light from searching the Scriptures. This is true of **all nations, of all tribes, and all peoples**, These will come from the grossest error, and **will take the places of those who have had opportunities and privileges and have not prized them**. These have worked out their own salvation with fear and trembling lest they become deficient in doing the ways and will of God, while those who have great light, have, through perversity of their own natural hearts, turned away from Christ because displeased with the requirements.

But God will not be left without witness. **The one-hour labourers will be brought in at the eleventh hour, and will consecrate ability and all their entrusted means to advance the work**. These will receive the reward for their faithfulness, because they are true to principle and shun not their duty to declare the whole counsel of God. **When** those who have had abundance of light throw off the restraint which the Word of God imposes, and make void His law, others will come in to fill their place, and take their crown....

Great is the work of the Lord. Men are choosing sides. Even **those supposed to be heathen** will choose the side of Christ, **while those who become offended, as did the disciples**, will go away and **walk** no more with Mm. And others will come in and **occupy the place they have left** vacant. The time is very near when man shall have

reached the prescribed limits... The record of their works in the books of heaven is **"Weighed in the balances, and found wanting."** *Review and Herald*, June 15, 1897.

Who are these one-hour laborers, these supposed heathen, these diligent students of prophecy? Not exclusively, but primarily, they are people who **come** from the **religious bodies**, or from **those churches** in which the love of the world has supplanted the love of God-from **the churches of Babylon**.

### **The Christian Theater**

The so-called **Christian world** is to be **the theater of great and decisive actions**. *Selected Messages*, book 3, 392.

In the great conflict between faith and unbelief, **the whole Christian world** will be involved. *Review and Herald*, February 7, 1893.

**All Christendom** will be divided into two great classes. *The Great Controversy*, 450,

As the Sabbath has become the special point of controversy **throughout Christendom**, and religious and secular authorities have combined to enforce the observance of the Sunday, the persistent refusal of a small minority to yield to the popular demand will make them objects of universal execration. *Ibid.*, 615.

Prophetically, the focus is on **all Christendom**. The symbols associated with the prophetic testimony of this time period of earth's history should be understood within the context of Christendom. See *Testimonies*, vol. 9, 16. The main group of people to respond to the final message of mercy comes from **Christendom**.

## **9- THE THREE ETERNAL ENEMIES - VERSE FORTY-ONE**

BUT these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon.

Prophecies foretelling the events connected with the latter rain, and the types recording historical illustrations setting forth the events connected with it, invariably identify three enemies opposing the work of Israel. Though found within differing settings in the Bible record, these three enemies maintain characteristics common to each illustration.

They are relatives of Israel. One enemy is set forth as a plural group. Many times the meaning of their name adds to the understanding of the prophecy or type. Moab, Ammon, and Edom were close relatives of ancient Israel.

Lot, the progenitor of Moab and Ammon is used as a figure in the story of the escape from Sodom.

### **Symbolic Relatives**

But the same day that **Lot** went out of Sodom it rained **fire** and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. **Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed.** Luke 17:29-30.

The Spirit of Prophecy teaches that Lot is a **figure** of those who escape being overthrown by the Sunday law during the time of the latter rain:

Servants of God, endowed with power from on high with their faces lighted up, and shining with holy consecration, went forth to proclaim the message from heaven. Souls that were scattered all through **the religious bodies answered to the call**, and

the precious were hurried out of the doomed churches, as Lot was hurried out of Sodom before her destruction. *Early writings 278-279*

Isaiah also uses Ammon, Moab, and Edom to symbolize those who respond to the loud-cry message.

**In that day** there shall be a root of Jesse, which shall stand for an **ensign** of the people; to it shall the Gentiles seek: and his rest shall be glorious.

And it shall come to pass **in that day**, that the Lord shall **set his hand** again **the second time to recover the remnant** of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria, and from Egypt, and from Pathros, and from Cush, and from Elam, and from Shinar, and from Hamath, and from the islands of the sea. And he shall set up **an ensign** for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth.

The envy also of Ephraim shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off. Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim. But they shall fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines toward the west; they shall spoil them of the east together: **they shall lay their hand upon Edom and Moab; and the children of Ammon shall obey them.**

And the LORD shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea; and with his mighty wind shall he shake his hand over the river, and shall smite it in the seven streams, and make men go over dryshod. And there shall be **an** highway for the remnant of his people, which shall be left, from Assyria; like as it was to Israel in the day that he came up out of the land of Egypt. Isaiah II: 10- 1 6.

### **The Sabbath Banner**

The previous passage teaches that the Lord is going to lift up an ensign, or banner for the whole world to see. This banner is the Sabbath.

ensign-5251: from 5264; a flag; also a sail; by impl. a flagstaff; gen. a signal; fig. a token: -banner, pole, sail, (en-)sign, standard. 5264: to gleam from afar, i.e. to be conspicuous as a signal; to raise a beacon: lift up as an ensign, standard bearer. *Strong's*.

It is **at this time** that the true Sabbath must be brought before the people both by pen and by voice. As the fourth commandment of the Decalogue and those who observe it are ignored and despised, the faithful few know that it is the time not to hide their face but to exalt the law of Jehovah by unfurling **the banner on which is inscribed the message of the third angel**, "Here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus." Revelation 14:12. *Evangelism, 281*.

Sister White uses the expression, "**stretched out His hand a second time**" (Isaiah I 1: I 1), to represent the final gathering time of God's people. Confirming that this part of Isaiah is pointing to the final gathering, she also emphasizes the remnant, and speaks of the unity which will prevail at that time:

The Lord showed me that **He had stretched out His hand the second time to recover the remnant of His people**, and that efforts must be redoubled in this gathering time.... **In the gathering**, when God has **set His hand to gather** His people, efforts to spread the truth will have their designed effect. **All should be united** and zealous in the work. *Early Writings, 74*.

God will bring all of His people into perfect harmony and they will proclaim the final message to the entire world. Edom, Ammon, and Moab symbolize those who respond to this last message. The word "**remnant**" pinpoints this passage as the final days of the earth's history:

In vision I saw two armies in terrible conflict. One army was led by banners bearing the world's insignia; the other was led by **the bloodstained banner of Prince Immanuel**. Standard after standard was left to trail in the dust as **company after company from the Lord's army joined the foe and tribe after tribe from the ranks of the enemy united** with the commandment-keeping people of God.... The army following **the banner** with the inscription, "The commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus," was gloriously triumphant. *Testimonies*, vol. 8, 41.

Isaiah, chapters 10 through 12, gives an account of the outpouring of the latter rain and the worldwide scope of the preaching of the three angels' messages. Isaiah points to the unity that will exist among God's people at that time, and to Moab, Ammon, and Edom as being symbols of those who accept this message.

Sister White confirms this understanding of the passage, and clarifies that the banner is Revelation 14:12 with its Sabbath implications. Certainly Daniel's prediction about Moab, Ammon, and Edom is consistent with the national Sunday law test.

Daniel 11:41 teaches that the next step in this prophecy is a national Sunday law in the United States. At this test, probation will begin to close for Adventists, and their places will be filled by those who are called the eleventh-hour workers, symbolized by Moab, Edom, and Ammon. Is this not a sobering thought?

### **Other Sheep**

The three enemies identified in Daniel 11:41 and other passages of prophecy, which address the final work of God's people under the latter rain, are those who are identified by Christ in John 10: 16:

And **other sheep** I have, which are not of this fold: them also I must bring, and they shall hear my voice; and there shall be one fold, and one shepherd.

These "other sheep" are found in the fold of modern Babylon, which is represented symbolically in prophecy as three enemies. They are those who have not understood the truth for this time, yet have been living up to all the light which they have been permitted to see.

At the time of the Sunday law they will recognize the truth and stand with those who are then proclaiming the three angels' messages with a loud cry. Before the Sunday law test, which is symbolized by the king of the north entering the glorious land, they are to be found in the communion of the churches of Babylon, which is described as a threefold union in Bible prophecy. The threefold union in Revelation consists of the beast, dragon, and false prophet, and is nothing more than the present-day manifestation of the three enemies which have consistently been seen ' in Bible prophecy when the final work of God's people was being illustrated.

These three enemies, in Daniel 1 1:41 represent the threefold makeup of modern Babylon, and yet they also represent those who flee from the hand of modern Babylon. This is, of course, in agreement with the very message for this hour, as the fourth angel of Revelation 18 is a call to come out of Babylon. Sister White also confirms this truth:

Revelation 18 points to the time when, as the result of rejecting the threefold warning of Revelation 14:6-12, the church will have fully reached the condition foretold by the second angel, and **the people of God still in Babylon will be called upon to separate from her communion**. This message is the last that will ever be given to the world; and it will accomplish its work. **When** those that "believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness" (2 Thessalonians 2:12), shall be left to receive strong delusion and to believe a lie, **then** the light of truth will shine upon all whose hearts are open to receive it, and all **the children of the Lord that remain in Babylon** will heed the call: "Come out of her, my people." Revelation 18:4. *Maranatha*, 173.

## The Chief of the Children

When considering these three symbolic nations, the term, "the chief of the children," is important. The word chief means "firstfruits," and is derived from the root word meaning-"shaking."

At the time of the Sunday law in the United States, the Lord begins to shake the heavens and the earth for the final time. The firstfruits of those to respond to the final message of warning are in the United States, for this is where the final test begins. Moab, Edom, and the chief (**first fruits**) of the children of Ammon are the beginning of those who respond to the three angels' messages.

In the passage in Isaiah these same three nations are represented, but the context of Isaiah's passage prophetically locates these three nations just before probation closes for all mankind. Isaiah's prophecy demonstrates this by symbolizing the final deliverance of God's people just after portraying Edom, Moab, and Ammon joining God's faithful:

But they shall fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines toward the west; they shall spoil them of the east together: they shall lay their hand upon **Edom and Moab; and the children of Ammon** shall obey them. And the **LORD** shall utterly destroy the tongue of the Egyptian sea; and with his mighty wind shall he shake his hand over the river, and shall smite it in the seven streams, and make men go over dryshod.

And **there shall be an highway for the remnant of his people**, which shall be left, from Assyria; **like as it was to Israel in the day that he came up out of the land of Egypt**. Isaiah II: 14-16.

In this description they are symbolizing *the finishing* of the loud cry, and Ammon is simply **the children** of Ammon, no longer **the chief of the children**. In Daniel 11:41 we see these nations representing the beginning of the loud cry message, and they are therefore the first fruits or the "chief of the children." At the close of the loud cry message Isaiah simply identifies them as the "children."

## Three Enemies Symbolized

Let us consider some of the places in which Scripture portrays these three enemies. References and definitions of names are taken from the *Seventh-day Adventist Bible Dictionary*, 1960 edition:

### Nehemiah 2:19:

Sanballat the Horonite: *the moon-god,- sin has given life*. A **Moabite**.

Tobiah the **Ammonite**: *Yahweh is good*.

Geshem the Arabian: *born in the rainy season*. Descendant of **Ishmael**. Arabians are a family of tribes, (plural).

### Judges 6:3; 7:12:

Midian: *strife*. Descendant of **Abraham** from Keturah.

Amalek, Descendant of **Esau**.

The children of the east (plural). Associated with **Balaam**.

### Daniel 11:41:

Edom: red. Descendant of **Esau**.

Moab: *from father*. Descendant of **Lot**.

Ammon: *paternal uncle*. Descendants of **Lot** (plural).

**Isaiah 11:14:**

Edom, Moab, children of Ammon (plural).

**Numbers 22:4-5:**

Moab, Midian, Balaam of Pethor which is in the land of the children of his people (plural).

**Revelation 16:12-13:**

Dragon: Spiritualism.

Beast: Catholicism.

False prophet: Apostate Protestantism (multiple churches, plural).

**John 19:19-20:**

Hebrew: *one on the other side*, **Abraham, Shem**.

Greek: *sons of the Iortians*, **Japheth** (plural).

Latin: *Roman: I have exalted*, Babylon was founded by Nimrod, a descendant of **Ham**.

**The Issue of the Law**

The ancient enemies listed in Daniel 11:41 are a *prophetic waymark* identifying those who are in resistance to God's, final-warning message, as well as identifying where those who respond to the latter-rain message flee from. These enemies are mentioned in prophecies or types whenever a prediction or illustration identifying the time period of the loud cry is being presented. These scenarios consistently identify an issue concerning God's law **which precedes** the latter-rain movement.

Gideon had to tear down the altar of Baal. Before the rains came, Elijah had to demonstrate God's power in contrast to that of Jezebel's gods. Before the Promised Land came Mount Sinai. Before Pentecost came Gethsemane and the Cross. The prophecy of Isaiah, chapters 10 through 12, begins with the issue of an "unrighteous decree," and culminates in the latter rain.

**The issue of the law precedes the latter rain**, and confirms that the Sunday law in the United States has already been passed if those symbolized by Moab, Ammon, and Edom are escaping. Understanding what and who these three nations represent in the prophetic sequence, identifies **the glorious land** of verse 41 as the United States, for the United States is where the Sunday law issue begins.

**Preview**

In Daniel 11:42 we again see the king of the north using his hand to symbolize taking control. He is, once again, **taking control of geographical areas**. In verse 40, it was Eastern Europe; in verse 41, the U.S.A.; and in verse 42, Egypt. However, as in verse 40, this geographical area has the word countries connected with its description. Verse 41, pointing to the U.S.A., has *countries* supplied-but means many people. Nevertheless, in verses 40 and 42, the word and meaning is countries. Egypt in this verse stands for the entire world with all its countries. This verse points to the next movement after the United States passes a Sunday law and bows to Rome. It points to the pope bringing the world into harmony through his corrupt wine.

## PART 5

### 10- SEIZING THE THRONE - VERSE FORTY-TWO

He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the and of Egypt shall not escape.

The symbolic characteristics of **the king of the south** are understood by identifying the word **south** with Egypt, and then applying the atheistic, defiant attributes of Pharaoh, in order to identify Communism. Still we must consider the word used, and the context of the passage:

Why is it so hard to lead a self-denying, humble life? Because professed Christians are not dead to **the world**. It is easy living after we are dead. But many are longing for the leeks and onions of **Egypt**. They have a disposition to act and dress as much like **the world** as possible and yet go to heaven. Such climb up some other way. They do not enter through the strait gate and narrow way. *Testimonies, vol 1,131* .

I am filled with sadness when I think of our condition as a people. The Lord has not closed heaven to us, but our own course of continual backsliding has separated us from God. Pride, covetousness, and love of **the world** have lived in the heart without fear of banishment or condemnation.... The church has turned back from following Christ her Leader and is steadily retreating toward **Egypt**.... Have we not been seeking the friendship and applause of **the world** rather than the presence of Christ and a deeper knowledge of His will? *Ibid.*, vol. 5, 217-218.

The plagues upon **Egypt** when God was about to deliver Israel were similar in character to those more terrible and extensive judgments which are to fall upon **the world** just before the final deliverance of God's people. *The Great Controversy, 627-628*.

Many are not growing strong, because they do not take God at His Word. They are conforming to **the world**. Every day they pitch their tents nearer to **Egypt**, when they should encamp a day's march nearer the heavenly Canaan. *Signs of The Times, March 6, 1884*.

The Lord God of Israel is to execute judgment upon **the gods of this world**, as upon **the gods of Egypt**. *Manuscript Releases, vol. 10, 240*.

Though close in identity, "south" and "Egypt" are still two different words. If Egypt represented no other symbol or figure or type in the Scriptures then it would always follow that Egypt represented the characteristics of a defiant Pharaoh. However, Egypt is more often used to symbolize the world than it is used to symbolize atheism. The context of the passage under consideration points out that the next step for the Papacy, after passage of the Sunday law in the United States, is to move against the countries of the world. This is of course what Revelation and the Spirit of Prophecy teach will happen. Egypt is not Communism; Egypt is the world:

How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst **weaken the nations!** For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: **I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.** Isaiah 14:12-14.

And **they worshipped the dragon** which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? Revelation 13:4.

Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. 2 Thessalonians 2:4.

Ever since his fall, Satan has been at work to establish himself as **ruler of this earth**. *Review and Herald*, March 9, 1886.

Sister White many times used the illustration of the joining of hands to symbolize agreement with the Papacy. This verse says he will stretch out his hand to the world (Egypt). The world, of course, has **many countries**, and they will all conform to Rome, for it states that the countries will not escape.

### **The Second Escape**

The word **escape** in this passage has a little different meaning from the word **escape** in the previous verse. The last verse spoke of slipping out of his hand to be saved, or preserved. In this verse escape conveys the meaning of not finding any deliverance from the iron fist of Rome:

escape-6413: tem. of 6412; deliverance; concr. an escaped portion: - deliverance, (that is) escape (-d), remnant. 6412: a refugee: -(that have) escape (-d, -th), fugitive. *Strong's*.

Is this order of events consistent with Adventist understanding? Does the United States, **the glorious land**, first submit to a Sunday law and then the world follows after? **Yes:**

As America, the land of religious liberty, shall unite with the Papacy in forcing the conscience and compelling men to honor the false sabbath, **the people of every country on the globe will be led to follow** her example. *Testimonies*, vol. 6, 18.

Foreign nations will **follow the example of the United States**. Though she leads out, yet the same crisis will come upon our people in all parts of the world. *Ibid.*, 395.

First, the United States will pass a national Sunday law, and many people will be overthrown-many people, not many countries. Then the world will follow the United States' lead, and many countries-in fact, all countries will be overthrown.

The final movements will be rapid ones. The main focus of this prophecy is on the **king of the north**. During this time God's people will be receiving the latter rain, proclaiming the three angels' messages in the loud cry, and will be persecuted for not obeying the Sunday laws, but, most importantly, they will be reflecting the character of Jesus Christ to the world, and to the universe, amid the most trying circumstances in earth's history.

Verse 42 introduces us to the pope in the process of bringing the world into harmony with the Papacy.

Verse 43 builds upon that information, and speaks of the financial structure coming under the control of the pope, describing the time period during which he gains full control of the world. This is when the ten kings of Revelation 17:12-13 give their power unto the beast.

Verse 43 presents a symbolic division of the earth into two classes: Third World versus Western World; rich versus poor; free versus enslaved; and small versus great. Yet, this verse is definite-the whole world will come into step with the king of the north's final march.

Before we address verse 43 specifically, we need to consider the transition, which takes place after the three walls of verses 40-43 are removed. It was after pagan Rome conquered the three territories that it assumed control of the world. It was also after the three horns were conquered that papal Rome assumed control of the world.

In verse 42 we see the king of the north removing the third and final wall, which allows him to ascend to the throne of the world. At this point the king of the north ceases to be simply a church, and returns to the position of the ruling geopolitical power, which had been lost to him since 1798.

This political restoration certainly moved forward when Mussolini deeded the Vatican property back to the Papacy in 1939, but the healing is not finished until the Papacy's scepter of authority matures to a point where religious persecution can once again be enforced as it was before 1798. In verse 43 **the deadly wound is completely healed** as represented by the king of the north taking control of the precious things of the world.

## 11- THE BEAST WITH THE DEADLY WOUND

DANIEL 1 1:40 identifies the beginning and the ending of a war between the king of the south and the king of the north. The war begins with the Papacy receiving a deadly wound. Symbolically, this deadly wound amounted to the loss of the political powers of the Vatican. The Vatican did not cease to be a church at that time; it simply was placed in a position where it no longer wielded the power associated with a political government:

The periods here mentioned-- "forty and two months," and "a thousand two hundred and threescore days"-are **the same**, alike representing the time in which the church of Christ was to suffer oppression from Rome. The 1260 years of **papal supremacy** began [with the establishment of the Papacy] in A.D. 538, and would therefore terminate in 1798. At that time a French army entered Rome, and made the pope a prisoner, and he died in exile. **Though a new pope was soon afterward elected, the papal hierarchy has never since been able to wield the power which it before possessed.** *The Great Controversy*, 266.

Daniel 11:40 teaches that in time there would be a reversal in the war between the king of the south and the king of the north. **The first step** toward the healing of the deadly wound has already taken place. The most ominous part of that fulfillment is the alliance which occurred at that time. When the Papacy returned to sweep away the empire of the king of the south, not only did it eliminate the king of atheism but it also established a partnership with Protestant America.

### Arms Stand on His Part

We have considered the passage in which Sister White stated **that histories which had already taken place in Daniel 11 would be repeated.** We have drawn the parallel between Clovis, the king of France, coming to the aid of the Papacy by eliminating the three horns in order to set up the abomination that maketh desolate, thus beginning the Dark Ages.

In our day the United States has been instrumental in bringing the reversal of fortunes in the war between the kings of the south and north. Certainly the history of Clovis illustrates the alliance of the Papacy and the United States, but there is an even deeper parallel to be seen in this story.

Until Clovis decided to fight for the Papacy and eliminate the three horns of Daniel 7, France and the other six horns of Europe were pagan nations. They had

opposed Christianity, including so-called Catholic Christianity. Not only did Clovis eliminate the three horns but he also **ceased the resistance against Catholicism** which to that point in history paganism had offered.

In this sense we see that the primary power to resist Catholicism throughout the time period from 1798 onward-was Protestantism. Moreover, the primary Protestant resistance came from the United States. Just as Clovis removed paganism (the daily), the United States not only formed an alliance with the Papacy against the Soviet Union but she also **ceased her Protestant resistance to the principles of popery and doctrines of Catholicism**. Certainly the Spirit of Prophecy was accurate when it stated, "histories will be repeated."

The Soviet Union was the first step for the king of the north. The next step is the United States. What is most solemn is the recognition that the United States-the **second** step-has already let down its guard.

## 12- THE BEASTS OF ROME

VERSE 40 also describes the connection of the king of the north with the military and economic aid of the United States. Daniel's testimony of this alliance is expanded in Revelation 13. There we locate two beasts.

### A Look at the Beasts of Rome

Daniel 7:7-8 identifies a beast with **ten** horns. Three of these horns were uprooted, leaving **seven** horns and the stout horn which spoke great things. In Revelation 12:3 we see a similar beast described as a great red dragon with **seven** heads with crowns upon them and **ten** horns. In Revelation 13:1 we see a beast with **seven** heads and **ten** horns which all had crowns. In Revelation 17:3 we see a scarlet colored beast with **seven** heads and **ten** horns.

These beasts with **horns and heads**, and combinations of **tens and sevens**, prophetically identify Rome. There is more information than simply the identification of Rome within the story of these beasts, but the fundamental prophetic truth is that these beasts represent Rome.

### The Beasts of Revelation 13 and Daniel 7 Identified

In chapter 13 (verses 1-10) is described another beast, "like unto a leopard," to which the dragon gave "his power, and his seat, and great authority." **This symbol**, as most Protestants have believed, **represents the Papacy**, which succeeded to the power and seat and authority once held by the ancient Roman Empire. Of the leopard-like beast it is declared: "There was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies.... And he opened his mouth in blasphemy against God, to blaspheme his name, and his tabernacle, and them that dwell in heaven. And it was given unto him to make war with the saints, and to overcome them: and power was given him over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations." **This prophecy, which is nearly identical with the description of the little horn of Daniel 7, unquestionably points to the Papacy.** *The Great Controversy, 439.*

### The Beast of Revelation 12 Identified

The line of prophecy in which these symbols are found begins with Revelation 12, with the dragon that sought to destroy Christ at His birth. The dragon is said to be Satan (Revelation 12:9); he it was that moved upon Herod to put the Saviour to death. But **the chief agent of Satan** in making war upon Christ and His people during the first centuries of the Christian Era was **the Roman Empire**, in which paganism was the

prevailing religion. **Thus while the dragon, primarily, represents Satan, it is, in a secondary sense, a symbol of pagan Rome.** Ibid., 438.

### **The Mystery Beast of Revelation 17**

To identify the beast of Revelation 17 we must pull the prophetic clues together. When this is done we find that the beast of Revelation 17 is once again Rome.

Before we take up the study of the mystery beast of Revelation 17, let us view the three previous beasts of Rome historically while identifying another important prophetic aspect set forth in connection with the symbolic beasts of Rome. This aspect involves the **transitions** which take place during the testimony about these beasts. Invariably there **is** an important change connected with the story of the beasts.

### **The Transitions- Daniel 7-The Beast That Was Slain**

The fourth beast of Daniel 7 describes the rise and fall of pagan and papal Rome. **The transition** from the fourth kingdom of pagan Rome to the fifth kingdom of papal Rome is a main theme of this prophecy. But another transition is set forth, as the **fifth** kingdom is destroyed.

In verse 7 Daniel views the beast of pagan Rome with its ten horns representing the division of the Roman Empire into ten kingdom's. See Daniel 7:24. In verse 8, while considering these horns, there arises a little horn with a "mouth speaking great things" symbolizing papal Rome. In verse 11, while Daniel considered the great words of the little horn, he beheld papal Rome receiving a deadly wound, for the "beast was slain."

### **Revelation 12-The War of Heaven and Earth**

One **transition** addressed in this chapter is the war which began in heaven and was later brought to earth. The history of the great controversy is set forth in this chapter. In this prophecy we also see **the transition** from the Jewish church with its earthly sanctuary to the Christian church and its heavenly sanctuary.

**Another transition** in this prophecy is again the transition from pagan to papal Rome. Though it is pagan Rome which is portrayed in verse 4 as waiting to destroy Christ at His birth, by verse 6 we see papal Rome persecuting the church of the wilderness for "a thousand two hundred and threescore days."

We see upon this beast ten horns which signify pagan Rome, and we also see seven heads with crowns signifying the seven kingdoms which brought about during the transition to papal Rome by the removal of removing the three Arian horns in order to give place to the Papacy.

In agreement with Daniel 7, both pagan and papal Rome are symbolized by the beast. However, the beast of Revelation 12 broadens the information of the beast of Daniel 7, for Revelation 12 is describing the great controversy beginning in heaven and continuing until the battle against the remnant. This beast spans the history of Satan's warfare against God and His people. It identifies Satan's weapons of warfare as the earthly powers which ascend to control the world and persecute God's people and desecrate God's truth.

This vision illustrates the time period of the great controversy, and therefore adds a dimension to the prophetic information associated with the beast. When placed in the historical context, the seven heads with crowns represent the sequence of world kingdoms which arise within the prophetic time period set forth by Daniel and John. These heads with crowns identify the world kingdoms which would arise as the great controversy unfolded, beginning with Babylon of Daniel's day and continuing until

modern Babylon returns to control the world. From Babylon to Babylon this sequence of kingdoms is illustrated in the seven heads with crowns.

As the ten horns of Daniel 7 represent the ten-fold confederacy of pagan Rome, the ten horns of Revelation 12 allude to a confederacy which will arise at the end of time to act out its part in the great controversy. Daniel 7 primarily identifies both pagan and papal Rome with the description of the fourth beast. Revelation 12 identifies this beast in relation to the history of the great controversy. Sister White acknowledges primary and secondary symbolism within prophetic information as she discusses the beast of Revelation 12:

Thus while the dragon, primarily, represents Satan, it is, **in a secondary sense**, a symbol of pagan Rome. *The Great Controversy*, 438.

### **Revelation 13-The Healing of the Beast**

The first beast of Revelation 13 is a description of a mortally wounded papal Rome. It describes **a transition** which takes place as the next world power arrives on the scene of history, and also the transition which takes place when the deadly wound is healed.

As John viewed the composite beast of Revelation 13, he saw within the five characteristics of the beast, the progression of world kingdoms as set forth in the book of Daniel, **in reverse**, for **John** was looking **back into history**.

First John saw that the beast had seven heads, representing Clovis and the other six horns which placed the Papacy upon the throne of the world. He then saw ten horns with crowns representing the ten kingdoms which pagan Rome divided into as it came to the end of its reign. Then John saw portrayed the leopard of Greece, followed by the bear-feet of MedoPersia, and ending with the lion-mouth of Babylon.

This reversal of world kingdoms in John's vision of Revelation 13 identifies and accentuates **the subject as-the sequence of kingdoms which were to arise throughout the great controversy**. The progression of world kingdoms is viewed in reverse by John as a prelude to identifying the next kingdom which was to come upon the scene of history.

This transition to the next world empire is highlighted by the opening phrase of verse 1 when John states that he "**stood upon the sand of the sea**." Where is John when he stands on the seashore?

Before answering that question we shall consider Sister White's description of the rise of the sixth world kingdom:

At this point another symbol is introduced. Says the prophet: "I beheld **another beast coming up out of the earth**; and he had two horns like a lamb." Revelation 13:1. Both the appearance of this beast and the manner of its rise indicate that the nation which it represents is unlike those presented under the preceding symbols. The great **kingdoms that have ruled the world** were presented to the prophet Daniel as beasts of prey, rising when "the four winds of the heaven **strove upon the great sea**." Daniel 7:2. In Revelation 17 an angel explained that waters represent "peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues." Revelation 17:15. Winds are a symbol of strife. The four winds of heaven striving **upon the great sea** represent the terrible scenes of conquest and revolution by which kingdoms have attained to power.

But the beast with lamblike horns was seen "coming up **out of the earth**." Instead of overthrowing other powers to establish itself, the nation thus represented must arise in territory previously unoccupied and grow up gradually and peacefully. It could not, then, arise among the crowded and struggling nationalities of the Old **World**-

**that turbulent sea** of "peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues." It must be sought in the Western Continent. Ibid., 439-440.

The United States is contrasted with the previous world kingdoms as arising **out of the earth-instead of out of the sea**. For this reason John is placed on the seashore when he receives this vision, for the seashore is **the borderline of the sea and the earth**. Revelation 13 is placed on the historical dividing line between the fifth and sixth heads of the seven headed beast.

John is prophetically located in this vision on "the sand of the sea" in order to highlight **the transition** between the Papacy as the fifth world empire and the United States as the sixth world power.

We see the condition of papal Rome identified by the phrase: "And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death." Then **the transition associated with the first beast of Revelation 13** is identified by the phrase: "And his deadly wound was healed." The rest of this chapter is built around the story connected with the healing of the wound and the consequences associated with that return to life. **This is also the transition which takes place when the last of the three walls is removed:**

The influence of Rome in the countries that once acknowledged her dominion is still far from being destroyed. **And prophecy foretells a restoration of her power.** "I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast." Revelation 13:3. **The infliction of the deadly wound points to the downfall of the Papacy in 1798.** After this, says the prophet, "his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast." **Paul states plainly that the "man of sin" will continue until the second advent.** 2 Thessalonians 2:3-8. To **the very close of time** he will carry forward the work of deception. And the revelator declares, also referring to the Papacy: "All that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life." Revelation 13:8. In both the Old and the New World, the Papacy will receive homage in the honor paid to the Sunday institution, **that rests solely upon the authority of the Roman Church.** Ibid., 579.

We see then, that these beasts all represent Rome. As they describe Rome **they also identify important transitions which occur during the history or future of Rome.**

Before we move away from our brief look at Revelation 13 an important perspective should be identified. Revelation 13, and Revelation 17, as well as Daniel 11:40-45 are dealing with the same subject. The subject is the healing of the deadly wound of the Papacy. Three world powers interact as this healing takes place. These are the beast of Catholicism, Apostate Protestant America, and the ten king world confederacy of Spiritualism. Daniel 11:40-45 covers this information from the perspective of the Papacy as the main character, whereas Revelation 13 focuses upon the role of the United States in this sequence of events, and Revelation 17 describes the part that the ten kings play in the final scenario. These Divine chapters must be understood as a composite picture if we are to bring the message into focus.

As we identify the mystery beast of Revelation 17, we see another transition which will take place with Rome from the time when the Papacy's resurrection from political death places her back on the throne of the world until she is confronted with her final destruction. We will now consider some of the clues which identify the mystery beast.

### **13- JUDGMENT OF THE WHORE**

Revelation 17:1 identifies the subject of this passage of as the judgment of the great whore:

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

**The woman (Babylon) of Revelation 17** is described as "arrayed in purple and scarlet colour, and decked with gold and precious stones and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness ... and upon her forehead was a name written, **MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS.**" Says the prophet: "I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus." Babylon is further declared to be "that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth." Revelation 17:4-6, 18. **The power that for so many centuries maintained despotic sway over the monarchs of Christendom is Rome.** *The Great Controversy, 382.*

### **The Wilderness Time**

So he carried me away in the spirit **into the wilderness:** and I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet coloured beast, full of names of blasphemy, having seven heads and ten horns. Revelation 17:3.

Here John is carried away into the wilderness. The term "wilderness" symbolizes a specific time period:

And to the woman were given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly **into the wilderness**, into her place, where she is nourished for **a time, and times, and half a time**, from the face of the serpent. Revelation 12:14.

### **The Drunken Woman**

When John is taken into the wilderness, he is taken into the 1260 years of the papal reign during the Dark Ages. Not only is John taken into the 1260-year time period but he is also taken to the end of it, for he sees the whore drunk with the blood of saints and martyrs:

And I saw **the woman drunken** with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration. Revelation 17:6.

This places John's location in the prophecy at **the end of the Dark Ages**, for if she was drunk on blood, then the time of persecution had already taken place:

In the Saviour's conversation with His disciples upon Olivet, after describing the long period of trial for the church-the **1260 years of papal persecution**, concerning which He had promised that **the tribulation should be shortened-He** thus mentioned certain events to precede His coming, and fixed the time when the first of these should be witnessed: "In those days, *after* that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light." Mark 13:24. The 1260 days, or years, terminated in 1798. **A quarter of a century earlier, persecution had almost wholly ceased.** Following this persecution, according to the words of Christ, the sun was to be darkened. On the 19th of May, 1780, this prophecy was fulfilled. *The Great Controversy, 306.*

We then understand that the subject of this prophecy is the judgment of the great whore, and that John's prophecy was specifically **placed in history-at** the end of the 1260 years of papal supremacy. Another theme of this prophecy is the relationship which the harlot has with the ten kings:

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. Revelation 17:2.

### **The Seven Hills of Rome**

And here is the mind which hath wisdom. The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sitteth. Revelation 17:9.

We see the great whore sitting on seven mountains directing us once again to Rome, for Rome is known as the seven-hilled city:

At last he beheld in the distance **the seven-hilled city**. With deep emotion he prostrated himself upon the earth, exclaiming: "Holy **Rome**, I salute thee!" He entered the city, visited the churches, listened to the marvelous tales repeated by priests and monks, and performed all the ceremonies required. Everywhere he looked upon scenes that filled him with astonishment and horror. He saw that iniquity existed among all classes of the clergy. He heard indecent jokes from prelates, and was filled with horror at their awful profanity, even during mass. As he mingled with the monks and citizens, he met dissipation, debauchery. Turn where he would, in the place of sanctity he found profanation. "No one can imagine," he wrote, "what sins and infamous actions are committed in Rome; they must be seen and heard to be believed. Thus they are in the habit of saying, 'If there is a hell, Rome is built over it: it **is** an abyss whence issues every kind of sin!' " *The Great Controversy*, 124-125.

Revelation 17 portrays the whore sitting upon the seven hills of Rome. Revelation 13:2 states that the dragon gave the Papacy its seat. The seat where the first beast of Revelation 13 sat was also **the city of Rome**:

In the sixth century the Papacy had become firmly established. Its **seat of power was Fixed in the imperial city**, and the bishop of **Rome** was declared to be the head over the entire church. Paganism had given place to the Papacy. The dragon had given to the beast "his power, and **his seat**, and great authority." Revelation 13:2. *Ibid.*, 54.

## **14- THE MYSTERY OF THE WOMAN AND THE BEAST**

AND the angel said unto me, Wherefore didst thou marvel? I will tell thee *the mystery of the woman, and of the beast* that carrieth her, which hath the seven heads and ten horns. Revelation 17:7.

The angel announces that he will identify the mysterious relationship between the whore of Rome, and the beast on which she rides. He begins his explanation by presenting a riddle.

### **The Beast That Was, and Is Not, and Yet Is**

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

The beast which carries the whore is identified by the angel as a beast that "was, and is not, and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit." Before we address this riddle, we will consider the rest of the description in this verse. It says, "they that dwell on the earth **shall wonder**, whose **names are not written in the book of life** from the foundation of the world."

### **Those Who Wonder and Worship**

Sister White clearly identified the first beast of Revelation 13 as Rome. There we find prophetic clues which identify the mystery beast of Revelation 17 as identical to the first beast of Revelation 13:

And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all **the world wondered after the beast**. And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and **they worshipped the beast**, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him? Revelation 13:3-4.

And all who dwell upon the earth shall worship him **whose names are not written in the book of life** of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. Revelation 13:8

In Revelation 13 Rome is the beast which those who are not in the book of life shall wonder after. She is also the beast which is worshiped. Those who wonder after and worship this beast are **those whose names are not written in the book of life**.

The mystery beast of Revelation 17 is also wondered after by those **whose names are not written in the book of life**

### **Into Perdition**

Another clue as to identifying the mystery beast can be seen by where this beast ends up. Revelation 17:8 states this beast goes into perdition. This fact is repeated three verses later.

And **the beast that was, and is not**, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and **goeth into perdition**. Revelation 17:11.

Perdition is a word describing the eternal destruction of the wicked. Perdition is also an important characteristic of Paul's **man of sin** in the book of Thessalonians. In fact, Paul calls him "the son of perdition." The **mystery beast** of Revelation 17, and the **man of sin** both go into perdition:

Let no man deceive you by any means: for that day shall not come, except there come **a falling away first**, and that **man of sin** be revealed, **the son of perdition**; who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God. **Remember ye not**, that **when I was yet with you, I told you these things?** 2 Thessalonians 2:3- 5

### **A Falling Away First**

Paul reminds the Thessalonians of something which he had previously taught them. He had taught them that before the "man of sin" could be identified, there would be a "falling away" from truth, and then **the transition** from pagan Rome to papal Rome would come:

The apostle Paul warned the church not to look for the coming of Christ in his day. "That day shall not come," he says, "except there come a falling away **first**, and that man of sin be revealed." 2 Thessalonians 2:3. Not till after the great apostasy, and the long period of the reign of the "man of sin," can we look for the advent of our Lord. The "**man of sin**," which is also styled "the mystery of iniquity **son of perdition**," and "that wicked," **represents the Papacy**, which, as foretold in prophecy, was to maintain its supremacy for 1260 years. *The Great Controversy, 356.*

When Paul penned this passage of scripture, pagan Rome ruled the world. Paul was reaffirming to the Thessalonians that before papal Rome would appear, apostasy in the church would prepare the way for papal Rome. Another clue to identifying the mystery beast can be seen by where this Rome to ascend. Paul was identifying the transition from pagan to papal beast ends up. Revelation 17:8 states that this beast goes **into perdition**. Rome and the apostasy associated with the Papacy's ascension.

As Paul continues his narrative to the Thessalonians, he prophetically alludes to another transition which will take place when the deadly wound of the papacy is healed.

And now ye know what withholdeth that he might be revealed in his time. For the mystery of iniquity doth already work: only he who now letteth **will let, until he be taken out of the way**. And **then** shall that Wicked be revealed, whom the Lord shall consume with the spirit of his mouth, and **shall destroy with the brightness of his coming: even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders**, and with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved. And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: that they all might be damned, who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness. 2 Thessalonians 2:6-12.

This "Wicked" comes after the working of Satan's lying wonders. These lying wonders are brought to the world by the second beast of Revelation 13 which speaks with the voice of a dragon. The transition which Paul alludes to when he states, "**whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders**," is the healing of the deadly wound. This transition is brought about through the work of the second beast of Revelation 13:

And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he **spake as a dragon**. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to **worship the First beast, whose deadly wound was healed**. And he doeth **great wonders**, so that **he maketh fire come down from heaven** on the earth in the sight of men, and **deceiveth them** that dwell on the earth **by the means of those miracles** which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. Revelation 13:11-14.

Modern Spiritualism . . . is but a revival, in a new form, of the witchcraft and demon-worship that God condemned and prohibited of old. It is foretold in the Scriptures, which declare that "in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils." I Timothy 4: 1. Paul, in his second letter to the Thessalonians, points to the special working of Satan in Spiritualism as an event to take place immediately before the second advent of Christ. Speaking of Christ's second coming, he declares that it is "**after the working of Satan** with all power and signs and lying wonders." 2 Thessalonians 2:9. *Patriarchs and Prophets, 686.*

Satan uses the second beast of Revelation 13 to heal the wound of the first beast, and both these beasts are identified as going into perdition, as **is the mystery beast** of Revelation 17:

And **the beast** was taken, and with him **the false prophet** that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These **both** were **cast alive into a lake of fire** burning with brimstone. Revelation 19:20.

Both the first beast of Revelation 13 and the mystery beast of Revelation 17 will be wondered after by those who are not in the book of life. They both go into perdition. They both have their seat in the city of Rome.

### **When the Wound Is Healed**

The mystery beast of Revelation 17 is the Papacy. This chapter describes the Papacy and her wound that is healed. This chapter is the story of the restoration of her former power:

And let it be remembered, it is the boast of Rome that she never changes. The principles of Gregory VII and Innocent III are still the principles of the Roman Catholic Church. And **had she but the power**, she would put them in practice with as much vigor now as in past centuries. Protestants little know what they are doing when they propose to accept the aid of Rome in the work of Sunday exaltation. While they are bent upon the accomplishment of their purpose, **Rome is aiming to re-establish her power, to recover her lost supremacy.** Let the principle once be established in the United States that the church may employ or control the power of the state; that religious observances may be enforced by secular laws; **in short, that the authority of church and state** is to dominate the conscience, and the triumph of Rome in this country is assured.

God's Word has given warning of the impending danger; let this be unheeded, and **the Protestant world will learn** what the purposes of Rome really are, **only when it is too late** to escape the snare. She is silently growing into power. Her doctrines are exerting their influence in legislative halls, in the churches, and in the hearts of men. She is piling up her lofty and massive structures in the secret recesses of which **her former persecutions will be repeated.** Stealthily and unsuspectedly she is strengthening her forces to further her own ends **when the time shall come for her to strike.** All that she desires is vantage ground, and this is already being given her. We shall soon see and shall feel what the purpose of the Roman element is. Whoever shall believe and obey the Word of God will thereby incur reproach and persecution. *The Great Controversy, 581.*

The Papacy is waiting to return to her former position as a religious-political power. She has never ceased being a church, and that is why she is portrayed as the whore, symbolizing a corrupt church. In 1798 she ceased being **a beast-a geopolitical Kingdom** as she received a deadly wound:

These great **beasts**, which are four, are four **kings**, which shall arise out of the earth. Daniel 7:17.

**Earthly governments prevail by physical force; they maintain their dominion by war;** but the founder of the new kingdom is the Prince of Peace. **The Holy Spirit represents worldly kingdoms under the symbol of fierce beasts of prey;** but Christ is "the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." John 1:29. In His plan of government there is no employment of brute force to compel the conscience. *Christ's Object Lessons, 77.*

In the book, *The Keys of This Blood*, Malachi Martin sets forth his belief that the Papacy will return to the throne of the world by the end of this century. He identifies the system which will control the world, a **geopolitical structure**, insisting that the power to ultimately rule must have the ability to exercise **legal and moral** authority over the entire earth. When describing this system, he defines what the Papacy lost in 1798:

The term "geopolitics" is a relatively recent invention. It is composed of two Greek words, meaning "earth" and "political system," which the ancient Greeks never combined....

At the close of two thousand years since Paul expressed the worldview of a genuine geo-religion, the 263rd successor to the obscure Great Fisherman reigns and governs in Rome as the titular head of that geo-religion housed in a genuinely geopolitical structure. For **John Paul 11 is not only the spiritual head** of a worldwide corpus of believers but also **the chief executive of a sovereign state** that is a recognized member of our late-twentieth-century society of states. With a political goal and structure? Yes, with a geopolitical goal and structure. For, in the final analysis, **John Paul 11 as the claimant Vicar of Christ does claim to be the ultimate court of**

**judgment on the society of states as a society.** *The Keys of This Blood*, 371, 374-375.

## 15- THE SEVEN HEADS

WE have been identifying the prophetic clues which demonstrate that the mystery beast of Revelation 17 is another manifestation of a beast with heads and horns, and combinations of tens and sevens, which invariably are seen to be Rome. We will now begin to look more closely at the heads of the mystery beast of Revelation 17. To begin we need to identify the heads on the beast.

John's view of prophetic history is in agreement with Daniel's:

**The books of Daniel and the Revelation are one.** One is a prophecy, the other a revelation; one a book sealed, the other a book opened. *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 7, 97 1.

Daniel identified a sequence of world powers which were prophetically set forth as beasts. These world powers were Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome:

Prophecy has traced the rise and fall of the world's great empires **Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and Rome.** With each of these, as with nations of less power, history repeated itself. Each had its period of test, each failed, its glory faded, its power departed, and its place was occupied by another. *Education*, 177.

Daniel saw that the fourth empire of Rome would divide into a second, or fifth world empire:

Thus he said, The **fourth beast** shall be **the fourth kingdom** upon earth, which shall be diverse from all kingdoms, and shall devour the whole earth, and shall tread it down, and break it in pieces. And the ten horns out of this kingdom are ten kings that shall arise: and **another shall rise after them**; and **he shall be diverse from the first**, and he shall subdue three kings. And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time. Daniel 7:23-25.

Sister White confirms Daniel's testimony of the transition from pagan to papal Rome:

In chapter 13 (verses 1-10) is described another beast, "like unto a leopard," to which the dragon gave "his power, and his seat, and great authority." This symbol, as most Protestants have believed, represents the Papacy, **which succeeded to the power and seat and authority once held by the ancient Roman Empire....** This prophecy, which is nearly identical with the description of the little horn of Daniel 7, **unquestionably points to the Papacy.** *The Great Controversy*, 439.

We see prophetically that the **first** five beasts representing kingdoms are Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, pagan Rome, and papal Rome.

### The Head Count

John sets forth a sequence of heads upon the mystery beast:

And there are seven kings: **five are fallen**, and **one is**, and **the other is not yet come**; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space. And **the beast** that was, and is not, even he **is the eighth**, and **is of the seven**, and goeth into perdition. Revelation 17: 1 0

## Kings, Heads, and Beasts

In describing the mystery beast in Revelation 17:3, John states that it had "seven heads and ten horns." In verses 10-11 he describes "seven kings." Continuing in verse 12 he is told, "And the ten horns **which thou sawest**," demonstrating that verses 10-12 are describing **the same beast which he had previously seen in verse 3**.

John uses the terms **seven heads** and **seven kings** interchangeably. This is prophetically acceptable, for kings and heads represent the same thing. Kings, heads, and beasts in prophecy represent kingdoms:

The words, "Thou art **this head** of gold," made the deepest impression upon Nebuchadnezzar's mind. Seeing this, the wise men who had been unable to tell his dream, proposed that he make an image similar to the one seen by him, and set it up where all might behold **the head** of gold, which was **a representation of his kingdom**. *The Youth's Instructor*, February 2, 1904.

The seven kings, and the eighth of Revelation 17:10-11 are kingdoms. This verse tells us that where the vision has been Divinely placed in history, five kingdoms are in the past, one kingdom is, and one has not yet come, and one will ultimately be the eighth.

When we began our study of Revelation 17 we prophetically located the prophet John in history. We saw that he was taken to the close of the 1260 years of papal reign. This was ascertained by the fact that when he was taken into the wilderness, the whore was already drunk.

At the close of this time period there were five kingdoms of Bible prophecy which had fallen. The first empire was Babylon, the second Medo-Persia, the third Greece, the fourth pagan Rome, and the fifth was papal Rome. Yet, was not papal Rome still a kingdom shortly before 1798?

Technically, yes. However, prophetically, Daniel had already set an example concerning kingdoms which had **almost left** the scene of history. Daniel 8 begins with the description of Medo-Persia, **even though Babylon was still a Kingdom** when Daniel received the vision. Babylon was not listed in the vision of Daniel 8, for it had already reached the end of its significance in prophecy. The same prophetic principle applies in Revelation 17: 10. Papal Rome still existed shortly before 1798, but it was at the end of its power.

Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, pagan Rome, and papal Rome had already fallen when John viewed these scenes. Which kingdom, or head, existed at that time in history? The kingdom set forth in Bible prophecy which existed shortly before 1798 was the second beast of Revelation 13. This beast is the United States:

What nation of the New World was **in 1798 rising** into power, giving promise of strength and greatness, and attracting the attention of the world? The application of the symbol **admits of no question. One nation, and only one**, meets the specifications of this prophecy; it points unmistakably to **the United States** of America. *The Great Controversy*, 440.

We now see the five fallen kings. We also see the one which was in existence within John's vision. But which one had not yet come?

### A Short Space or an Hour

In order to identify **the one which was yet to come** as of 1798, we will first look at the phrase in Revelation 17:10 which identifies the seventh king's time period for

ruling **as-short**. It states, "the other is not yet come; and **when** he cometh, **he must continue a short space**."

Remember-this **kingdom did not exist** at the point in history where John received this vision. Two verses later we find a clue to help identify this seventh king:

And the ten horns which thou sawest are ten kings, **which have received no kingdom as yet**; but **receive power as kings one hour** with the beast. Revelation 17:12.

This verse tells us that the ten horns had no **kingdom** when John viewed this prophecy. They also will rule for a short time, for they will rule for only "one hour." **The ten horns are the seventh head**. These ten horns were yet future in 1798, and when they will come to power as a kingdom, their time to rule will be short-lived. Notice these ten horns receive "a kingdom," they do not receive ten kingdoms.

### **Ten Horns, Ten Kings and One Mind**

Prophetically a head represents a kingdom. How then can one head have ten kings? The next verse tells us how:

**These have one mind**, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. Revelation 17:13.

Having one mind means to be in a confederacy together. The seventh kingdom, the one which follows the United States, is a confederacy of kings:

These have **one mind**, and shall give their power and strength unto the beast. . . . And he saith unto me, the waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.... For God hath put in their hearts to fulfill his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled. And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth. Revelation 17:13, 15, 17-18.

"**These have one mind**." There will be **a universal bond of union**, one great harmony, **a confederacy of Satan's forces**. "And shall give their power and strength unto the beast." Thus is manifested the same arbitrary, oppressive power against religious liberty, freedom to worship God according to the dictates of conscience, as was manifested by the Papacy, when in the past it persecuted those who dared to refuse to conform with the religious rites and ceremonies of Romanism. *Maranatha, 187*.

The head, or kingdom, which follows the United States is a confederacy of Satan's forces. This confederacy is in association with the beast, for the Scripture states, they "**receive power as kings one hour with the beast**," and, "**shall give their power and strength unto the beast**."

### **To Speak as a Dragon**

We know the United States will begin to speak as a dragon **when** it passes Sunday legislation:

The **Sunday movement** is now making its way in darkness. The leaders are concealing the true issue, and many who unite in the movement do not themselves see whither the undercurrent is tending. Its professions are mild and apparently Christian, but **when it shall speak it will reveal the spirit of the dragon**. *Testimonies*, vol. 5, 452.

Earlier we pointed out that the speaking of a nation symbolizes an action of its legislative and judicial authorities:

The lamblike horns and dragon voice of the symbol point to a striking contradiction between the professions and the practice of **the nation thus represented**. The "**speaking**" of the nation is **the action of its legislative and judicial authorities**. By such action it will give the lie to those liberal and peaceful principles which it has put forth as the foundation of its policy. The prediction that it will speak "as a dragon" and exercise "all the power of the first beast" plainly foretells a development of the spirit of intolerance and persecution that was manifested by the nations represented by the dragon and the leopardlike beast. *The Great Controversy, 442.*

Revelation 13:11 tells us that the United States will speak as a dragon, To "[speak] as a dragon" is fulfilled when this nation passes Sunday legislation. The following verses teaches that **after** the United States passes Sunday legislation, and therefore speaks as a dragon-she does something else:

And he exerciseth all the power of the **first** beast before him, and **causeth the earth and them which dwell therein** to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, and **deceiveth them that dwell on the earth** by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; **saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast**, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. Revelation 13:12-14.

After the United States passes a Sunday law, and therefore begins to speak as a dragon, she then causes the rest of the world to do the same.

#### **The Image of the Beast**

When the early church became corrupted by departing from the simplicity of the gospel and accepting heathen rites and customs, she lost the Spirit and power of God; and **in order to control the consciences** of the people, **she sought the support of the secular power**. The result was the Papacy, a church that controlled the power of the state and employed it to further her own ends, especially for the punishment of "heresy." In order for the United States **to form an image of the beast, the religious power must so control the civil government that the authority of the state will also be employed by the church** to accomplish her own ends. *The Great Controversy, 443.*

First, the United States forms an image to the beast-then the entire world does so. **The world therefore must form and empower a world government which supersedes the sovereignty of nations in order to fulfill the definition of the image of the beast. To compel the consciences of people through civil government, you must by definition and logic have a civil government.**

It is interesting to note that as the United Nations continues to grow in all facets of its world structure, it has divided ' the world up into ten districts to facilitate the implementation of its programs:

Fearful is **the issue to which the world is to be brought**. The **powers of earth**, uniting to war against the commandments of God, will decree that "**all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond,**" (Revelation 13:16), shall conform to the customs of the church by the observance of the false sabbath. **All who refuse compliance will be visited with civil penalties**, and it will finally be declared that they are deserving of death. *Ibid., 604.*

The United States is daily becoming more and more the world policeman. When the United States, in order to empower a world government, uses its military and monetary strength in connection with the powerful deceptions of spiritualism, we will then see the seventh head of Revelation 17:10.

As it was with John, this seventh head is yet future to our day. Yet, we can certainly see the United Nations rising on the horizon as a world government in its truest sense.

### **One Hour**

This world confederacy will be short-lived. We are told that they will rule "one hour," and that they will "continue a short space."

This ten-king confederacy is the instrument God will use to finally destroy the Papacy:

And the ten horns which thou sawest upon the beast, **these shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire.** For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast, until the words of God shall be fulfilled. Revelation 17:16-17.

The ten kings are the seventh head of the beast, but notice the phrase, "For God hath put in their hearts to fulfil his will, and to agree, and give their kingdom unto the beast."

Though they corporately are the seventh kingdom, **they give** the kingdom unto **the beast.** The beast which they give this kingdom unto is none other than the beast **that was, and is not, and is yet to come,** and even he is **the eighth.**"

### **16- THE EIGHTH HEAD**

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. Revelation 17:8.

The mystery beast is mentioned in connection with the seven consecutive kingdoms of Bible prophecy: And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space. And **the beast that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven,** and goeth into perdition. Revelation 17: 10-11.

These verses are telling us that this mystery beast, which we have already associated with the prophetic characteristics of the Papacy, is the eighth head. The mystery beast is the eighth kingdom which "shall ascend." This ascendancy is in agreement with the passages which teach that all will wonder and worship whose names are not written in the book of life. This last head will ascend, or rise to the throne of the earth, as he takes control of the world governmental structure which the ten kings agree to give unto him.

### **Of the Seven**

This eighth kingdom is said to be "of the seven." Whoever the eighth head is, it must be a head that **is-of the seven.** This means, it must be **one of the seven.** Which one? One clue is that six of the seven heads are alive when the eighth arrives.

Daniel tells us that Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, and pagan Rome lost their dominion, but their lives were prolonged:

As concerning **the rest of the beasts,** they had their dominion taken away: yet **their lives were prolonged** for a season and time. Daniel 7:12.

The prolonging of these four beasts' lives is in contrast with the description of the Papacy in the previous verse, which describes the destruction of the Papacy:

I beheld then because of **the** voice of **the** great words which the horn spake: I beheld even till **the beast was slain**, and his body destroyed, and given to the burning flame. Daniel 7:1 1.

The margin for Revelation 13:3 defines **the** word "wounded," as **slain**:

And I saw **one of his heads** as it were **wounded [slain]** to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. Revelation 13:3.

Sister White tells us that the little horn of Daniel 7 and the first beast of Revelation 13 are both the Papacy. The one head of the beast which has been slain is the Papacy. The first four heads are alive, though no longer having their dominion, and the fifth head has been slain.

The United States, the sixth head, continues until the end, for it is clearly identified as the power which forces the whole world to honor the Papacy. It is the modern-day "Clovis," which sustains and empowers the Papacy, as it *ascends* to the throne of the world.

In Daniel 8:1 1, when describing the transition from paganism into the Papacy, it states that "by him the daily *sacrifice* was taken away." This clause is identifying the removal of paganism to make room for the Papacy. It is interesting to note that the word "away" in this verse means: "to raise," for even though open paganism was removed by Clovis and the other countries of Europe, in reality it was exalted, for the Papacy is just paganism covered in a Christian profession.

Part of the story of the removal of paganism was the exaltation of paganism through the medium of the Papacy. Part of the story of the eighth head is that he will "ascend," and just as Clovis contributed to the first ascension of the Papacy, the United States will contribute to the final ascension of the Papacy.

The United States is the power which will force **the whole world** into making an image to the beast, and thus into accepting the confederacy of the ten kings:

**Eight** people went into the ark, and were symbolically **resurrected** to a new earth. After six thousand years of sin, the earth will have a thousand years of rest before it is **resurrected** anew to begin **the eighth** millennium. Christ was **resurrected** the day after the Sabbath, which is **the eighth** day, so to speak.

And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and **causeth the earth** and them which dwell **therein to worship the first beast**, whose deadly wound was healed.... And deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast; **saying to them that dwell on the earth**, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live. Revelation 13:12, 14.

The ten kings will still be alive when the eighth head begins to rule, for they agree to "give their power and strength unto the beast," and to receive power "with the beast."

Thus is represented **the papal power**, which with all deceivableness of unrighteousness, by outside attraction and gorgeous display, deceives all nations; promising them, as did Satan to our first parents, all good to those who receive its mark, and all harm to those who oppose its fallacies. The power which has the deepest inward corruption will make the greatest display, and will clothe itself with the most elaborate signs of power. The Bible plainly declares that this covers a corrupt and deceiving

wickedness. "Upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH."

**What is it that gives its kingdom to this power? Protestantism**, a power which, while professing to have the temper and spirit of a lamb and to be allied to Heaven, **speaks with the voice of a dragon**. It is moved by a power from beneath. *The Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary*, vol. 7, 983.

The eighth is of the seven. It is one of the seven. All **of the seven kingdoms are living-except one**. The one head which is dead is to be resurrected. The number eight has a prophetic meaning which adds insight.

### **Eight Represents Resurrection**

The mystery beast, which is the eighth head, is the Papacy. It is of the seven-for it was the fifth. In contrast to the other six, it is identified as being dead. It is the head that is resurrected, as symbolized by the number eight.

### **The Final Transition**

Connected with the beasts of Rome, there is always a story of a transition which takes place. The mystery beast and the whore describe of the healing of the deadly wound. It is a description of the Papacy's return to her position as a religious-political kingdom. This transition takes place when the powers which were lost in 1798-are **resurrected**:

As we approach the last crisis, it is of vital moment that harmony and unity exist among the Lord's instrumentalities. The world is filled with storm and war and variance. **Yet under one head-the papal power-the people will unite** to oppose God in the person of His witnesses. This union is cemented by the great apostate. *Testimonies*, vol. 7, 182.

### **The Sequence of Events**

The sequence of kingdoms, as set forth in the description of John in Revelation 17:10, is the identical sequence of events which Daniel 11:40-45 identifies.

First, the enemy (atheism), which gave the deadly wound, would be overcome as **the first wall is removed**.

Then the United States, the head which existed when John received the vision of Revelation 17, would form an image to the beast at the passage of a national Sunday law. Thus the king of the north enters the glorious land, as **the wall of separation between church and state is removed**.

Then the king of the north brings Egypt under his control. Egypt, symbolizing the world, is represented by John as a world confederacy of ten kings, or the seventh head. Through pressure from the United States, they form a confederacy, erect their own image of the beast, and **remove the wall of national sovereignty**:

The spirits of devils will go forth to **the kings of the earth** and to **the whole world**, to fasten them in deception, and urge them on to unite with Satan in his last struggle against the government of Heaven. By these agencies, rulers and subjects will be alike deceived. *The Great Controversy*, 624.

Clearly, the mystery beast is Rome. She had ruled the world before John was historically placed within the vision. Yet, she was no longer ruling the world at the historical point of the vision, but though she was, and was not, she would ascend and follow the seventh. When the deadly wound is healed, **the king of the north** will rule the world again.

## Prophetic Cities

And the woman which thou sawest is that great city, which reigneth over the kings of the earth. Revelation 17:18.

A city symbolizes a kingdom in prophecy, so the woman,, symbolized as the great city, is the kingdom which reigns "over the kings of the earth."

**The Holy City**, the New Jerusalem, which is the capital and **representative of the kingdom**, is called "the bride, the Lamb's wife." *The Great Controversy*, 426.

Nebuchadnezzar gave himself up to pleasure, and to the glorification of himself. He built **a great city**, and walked about his palaces, and said, in the pride of his heart, "Is not this great Babylon, that I have built for **the house of the kingdom** by the might of my power, and for the honor of my majesty?" *Review and Herald*, April 30, 1889.

We have noted that the beasts which symbolize Rome contain information on the transitions which transpire during the historical time period in which the prophecy is describing. This will be so with the beast of Revelation 17, as the transition under consideration will be the final rise of the Papacy before she will go into perdition. This final rise will not be complete until the deadly wound is healed. Before that time she will still be just a church, symbolized as a whore. When she returns to the point **where she controls the finances** of the world as she did in past ages, she will once again become a beast-a **kingdom**.

In Daniel 11:43 this transition is symbolized as the king of the north gains control over the financial structure of the world-both rich and poor.

Revelation agrees with this total domination, for not only does that great city reign over the kings of the earth, as we have just considered in Revelation 17:18, but she also symbolically sits on, or controls the entire population of the world:

And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, **where the whore sitteth**, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues. Revelation 17:15.

Satan means **to make all nations** drink of the wine of the wrath of the fornication of Babylon. Men **are binding themselves together in bonds of union** to show their disloyalty to the God of heaven. The first day of the week is to be exalted and presented to all for observance. Shall we be partakers of this cup of abomination? Shall we bow to the authorities of earth and despise God? The powers of darkness have been gathering their forces to bring this crisis about in the world, so **that the man of sin may exalt himself above God**. God does not force the conscience of any man, but the powers of darkness have been trying to compel the consciences of men ever since Abel. *Review and Herald*, April 15, 1890.

An important understanding concerning the testimony of Daniel and Revelation in regard to the healing of the deadly wound is found when we recognize the three powers which interact with one another throughout the last scenes of history. These powers are portrayed in a two-fold sense. They have a spiritual, as well as, political aspect.

All three are located in Daniel 11:40, as we see atheism, Catholicism, and Protestantism symbolized in this verse. These three entities also represent socialism, democracy, and a monarchy. Three powers striving against one another in the final scenes of earth's history.

Though swept away in Daniel 11:40 the political principles of atheism still have a part to play in the end-time scenario, for the United Nations is politically structured as a socialistic government. The ten kings of Revelation 17 are organized under the same guidelines as the former Soviet Union.

Revelation 16:13-14 teaches that three spiritual powers will lead the world to the battle of Armageddon. These powers are the beast, the false prophet, and the dragon. These are the same three entities which begin their interaction in Daniel 1 1:40, for the beast is Catholicism with the politics of a monarchy. The dragon is spiritualism with its politics of socialism, and the false prophet is apostate Protestantism with its politics of democracy.

Much more can be added to this understanding, but one helpful insight is found when we recognize that Daniel 11:40-45 is identifying the healing of the deadly wound, but primarily from the perspective of Rome. Revelation 13 is covering the same ground, but primarily it is identifying the role of the United States. Revelation 17 is also covering the same ground, but it is identifying the role of the 10 king confederacy and its relationship to the story.

These three powers are identified in Daniel 11:40 and their story leads all the way to Armageddon, with each having a part to play, as well as each having a prophetic chapter which brings their specific role into clearer perspective. The testimony of Daniel 11:40-45 is *the prophetic* key which brings all these prophecies into harmony. This harmony establishes this message as present truth, and brings into focus an understanding from the books of Daniel and Revelation which is designed to awaken God's sleeping church.

Dear reader the Sunday law in the United States is the next waymark to be fulfilled in the movements which Sister White has warned, "will be rapid," and will come as, "an overwhelming surprise."

PART 6 -conclusion.

### **17- THE LOVE OF MONEY - VERSE FORTY-THREE**

BUT he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps.

And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Revelation 13:17.

Shortly after the pope ascends to the throne of the world, he will take charge of the financial structure of the world. Revelation 18:17-19 uses ships to symbolize economic wealth. A quick perusal of Revelation 18, and other passages in Scripture dealing with the fall of Babylon, demonstrates that when modern Babylon, the king of the north, finally will be brought down, the whole economic structure of the earth will go with him. The control of the finances will identify its return to the position of the dominant geopolitical world power.

This verse is pointing to the very time when these kings of the earth, in Revelation 17:12, give their power unto the beast. But who are the Libyans and the Ethiopians?

#### **Rich and Poor**

Ancient Egypt had two neighbors who had interesting histories. The Libyans, to the west of Egypt, lived on the fringe of the desert, and throughout their history cast a longing eye toward Egypt and the fertile Nile valley. They attempted to invade Egypt several times, but were repulsed. Modern Egypt symbolizes the world, and Libya symbolizes what we call today the Third World-the poor, downtrodden countries that long to move up to the standards of the affluent Western World. But who was Ethiopia?

Ancient Ethiopia included not only Nubia but also the part of Western Arabia bordering the Red Sea. The Egyptians always coveted Ethiopia because of the gold mines in its mountains, and its wealth in cattle, ivory, hides, and ebony, and because

products from central Africa entered Egypt through Ethiopian traders. As modern Egypt represents the world, and Libya the poor, third-world countries, so Ethiopia represents the affluent Western World. This verse is telling us that the Papacy will obtain control of the entire world-everyone from rich to poor. It also adds that they will **be at his steps**.

### **At His Steps**

steps-4703: **from 6805**; a step; fig. companionship:- going, step.

**6805**: a prim. root; to pace, i.e. step regularly; (upward) to mount; (along) to march; (down and caus.) to hurl: -bring, go, march (through), run over. *Strong's*.

To be at the steps of the king of the north is to march with him as he runs over the whole world. The whole world will be in companionship with him, but there is only one true unity that the wicked can achieve:

With the ungodly there will be a deceptive harmony that but partially conceals a perpetual discord. In their opposition to the will and the truth of God they are united, while on every other point they are rent with hatred, emulation, jealousy, and deadly strife. *Testimonies*, vol. 5, 101.

When the world comes into companionship and marches in Rome's steps, their only true unity will be in their hatred for the truth, especially as reflected in God's followers. The next verse speaks to that very agreement.

### **The Pope's Opinion**

In the book *Keys of This Blood*, we find an interesting passage by Malachi Martin. Martin is a Vatican *insider*, and has written many books concerning Catholicism, the Vatican, the pope, and so on. He describes the reasons and motivations behind his belief that within this century the pope will be enthroned over the whole world. There are many interesting ideas in this book, and though they come from a non-prophetic source, I would like to share one area with you.

As Malachi Martin addresses the structure of the **countries** of the world, he describes in depth how the pope views them. Here are two quotations showing how a contemporary map of the world would now be drawn:

In short, that contemporary map of shame would be the graphic expression of the atrocity we have come to describe so blandly as the division of the world into **North and South**, which is to say, in plainer terms, the division of nations, and of populations within nations, into **rich and poor ....**

It is just such a map of shame that Pope John Paul does hold up to the world in his **moral assessment** of the geopolitical arrangements that are setting up our future for us....

On the modern map of world shame that is the subject of so much of John Paul's attention, **North and South** do not figure as precise geographical terms. Instead, they are global frontiers where **wealth and poverty** divide not only nations, but societies within nations....

Whether it is applied in the confines of the United States, or in the world at large, John Paul's moral assessment of **North and South** is simple and clear. In a morally adjusted economy, he insists, the **rich should not get richer if the poor get poorer**. *Keys of This Blood*, Malachi Martin, 163-164, 171.

In Daniel 1 1:43 we see the king of the north, as the Papacy's deadly wound is healed, assuming control of the economic structure of the world. We are symbolically given a description of the rich affluent **Ethiopian** world, and the poor, underprivileged

**Libyan** world. Is it a coincidence that as the pope makes his plans about running the world and applying his *morally adjusted economy*, he most definitely divides the world into rich and poor?

This verse is pointing to the time when the pope will take control of the world and will begin to demand obedience from all. Ethiopia and Libya symbolize the rich and the poor, the free and the bond, the small and the great, as they relate to Egypt:

And he causeth all, **both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond**, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads. Revelation 13:16.

John and Daniel contrast the world in a way which agrees with the history of Ethiopia, Libya, and Egypt.

## 18- THE SWELLING CRY- VERSE FORTY-FOUR

BUT tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many.

In this verse *tidings* represent a message. This message will greatly disturb the **king of the north**. In fact, it will so disturb him that he will launch a great persecution. The key to the message which will infuriate him will be in the directions of **east and north**. These directions represent a message which will come from Christ. This verse is pointing to the loud cry message, which begins in earnest at the national Sunday law-as illustrated in verse 4 1.

### East and North

The directions of east and north identify these tidings as a message from God:

And I saw another **angel ascending from the east**, having the seal of the living God: and he cried with a loud voice to the four angels, to whom it was given to hurt the earth and the sea, saying, Hurt not the earth, neither the sea, nor the trees, till we have sealed the servants of our God in their foreheads. Revelation 7:2-3.

Soon there appears **in the east** a small black cloud, about half the size of a man's hand. It is the cloud which surrounds the Saviour and which seems in the distance to be shrouded in darkness. The people of God know this to be the sign of the Son of man. *The Great Controversy*, 640.

Who raised up **the righteous man from the east**, called him to his foot, gave the nations before him, and made him rule over kings? he gave them as the dust to his sword, and as driven stubble to his bow.... I have raised up **one from the north**, and he shall come: **from the rising of the sun** shall he call upon my name: and he shall come upon princes as upon mortar, and as the potter treadeth clay. Who hath declared from the beginning, that we may know? and beforetime, that we may say, He is righteous? yea, there is none that sheweth, yea, there is none that declareth, yea, there is none that heareth your words. The first shall say to Zion, Behold, behold them: and I will give to Jerusalem one that bringeth good **tidings**. Isaiah 41:2, 25-27.

What was the result of the outpouring of the Spirit on the day of Pentecost? **The glad tidings of a risen Saviour** were earned to the uttermost parts of the inhabited world. *The Acts of the Apostles*, 48.

The sealing message is the message from the east. The righteous man from the east and north is Christ. The message of Christ that comes from the east and north is the good tidings of the "**Lord our righteousness**," which is, of course, the three angels'

messages. It is the message by which, first, the church, and then the world, will be tested. Moreover, it is this message that will enrage the king of the north.

Once again, the final scenes will be rapid ones. The beginning of the latter rain will occur sometime shortly before the national Sunday law will be passed in the United States, but it will continue to accelerate and to grow until the close of human probation. The preceding verses illustrate the final steps of the Papacy; they have not focused specifically on what God's people are doing while the pope is taking control of the world-but verse 44 does.

The **tidings** which come from the north and east are the glad tidings of Christ's righteousness that are swelling into a loud cry, and giving the world its final message of warning. This message will go forth as the pope takes control of the world. As he does so, he will begin to deal with the troublers in his midst, eventually leading to a worldwide death decree.

### **Martyrs**

In this verse the pope and his allies go out **to destroy and utterly make away many**. The Hebrew, and most other translations, indicate an infinitive of these two words, (destroy and make away), leaving the verb "shall go," which speaks of intentions rather than actions. Adventist understanding, however, takes in both of these possibilities.

As a result of the loud-cry message, which will be given in earnest at the passage of a national Sunday law, persecution will begin and eventually become more severe-including martyrdom. After probation for all the world closes, there will not be any more martyrs. This verse may then be speaking of the king of the north's intent to destroy all the faithful through the death decree, although it will never be put into effect, or it may be describing the actual martyrdom of the faithful before probation closes:

When this grand work is to take place in the battle, **prior to the last closing conflict**, many will be imprisoned, many will flee for their lives from cities and towns, and **many will be martyrs** for Christ's sake in standing in defense of the truth. *Maranatha, 199.*

**The whole world** is to be stirred with enmity against Seventh-day Adventists because they will not yield homage to the Papacy by honoring Sunday, the institution of this anti-Christian power. It is the purpose of Satan to cause them to be **blotted from the earth**, in order that his supremacy of the world may not be disputed. *Review and Herald, August 22, 1893.*

### **The Most Vivid Presentation**

The season of distress and anguish before us will require a faith that can endure weariness, delay, and hunger-a faith that will not faint though severely tried.... The **"time of trouble, such as never was,"** is soon to open upon us; and we shall need an experience which we do not now possess and which many are too indolent to obtain. It is often the case that trouble is greater in anticipation than in reality; **but this is not true of the crisis before us. The most vivid presentation cannot reach the magnitude of the ordeal.** *The Great Controversy, 621-622.*

I was pointed down to the time when the third angel's message was closing. The power of God had rested upon His people; they had accomplished their work and were prepared for the trying hour before them. They had received the latter rain, or refreshing from the presence of the Lord, and the living testimony had been revived. The last great warning had sounded everywhere, **and it had stirred up and enraged the inhabitants of the earth** who would not receive the message. *Early Writings, 279.*

The description of this chapter's final verse portrays the king of the north and the inhabitants of the earth in the position they have arrived at as probation closes.

The king of the north had been trying to prevent the loud-cry message, coming from Christ through His people, from reaching the inhabitants of earth. Christ's people who proclaim this message are His church, **the glorious holy mountain**. The king of the north attempts to block this message by standing in front of its intended recipients, but the Euphrates is dried up. Babylon falls. He comes to his end with none to help, and he goes into perdition.

This final verse portrays the battle formation of Armageddon.

## 19- NONE TO HELP - VERSE FORTY-FIVE

AND he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.

**plant-5193:** a prim. root; prop. to strike in, i.e. fix; spec. (lit. or fig.): -fasten, plant (-er). to plant

**tabernacles-168:** from 166; a tent (as clearly; conspicuous from a distance): -covering, (dwelling)

**palace-643:** appar. of for. der; a pavilion or palace-tent:- palace. *Strong's*.

And he saith unto me, The **waters** which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are **peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues**. Revelation 17:15.

And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of **the Lord's house** shall be established in **the top of the mountains**, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to **the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God** of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. Isaiah 2:23.

### Between, Not In

The king of the north will place himself between the people giving the last warning message and the people who are to receive it. He will try at this point to block the message. The King James Version states he will plant "his palace between the seas **in** the glorious holy mountain." Yet most often, later versions translate this passage as, "he puts his palace between the seas **and** the glorious holy mountain."

And he shall pitch his palatial tents **between** the seas **and** the glorious holy mount (Zion); **yet** he shall come to his end with none to help him. Daniel 11:45, **Amplified** Version.

And he shall plant the tents of his palace **between** the seas **and** the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and no one will help him. Daniel 11:45, New King James Version.

### Blocking the Message

The action of placing oneself between a message of God and its intended recipient is a common illustration in the Spirit of Prophecy, and is also used in verse 45:

Though being unable to expel God from His throne, Satan has charged God with satanic attributes and has claimed the attributes of God as his own. He is a deceiver, and through his serpentine sharpness, through his crooked practices he has drawn to himself the homage which man should have given to God, and **has planted his satanic**

**throne between the human worshiper and the divine Father.** *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 7, 215.

Stand out of the way, Brethren. Do not interpose yourselves **between** God and His work. *Ibid.*, vol. 16, 23 8.

Formality, worldly wisdom, worldly caution, worldly policy, will appear to many to be the very power of God, but when accepted, it stands as an **obstacle to prevent** God's light in warnings, reproof, and counsel from coming to the world. *Selected Messages*, book 2, 19.

Just prior to the coming of the Son of man, there is-and has been for years-a determination on the part of the enemy to cast his hellish shadow right **between** man and his Saviour. *Manuscript Releases*, vol. 6, 7.

**Satan will try to interpose himself** and discourage the workers, so as to prevent them from giving the message of light and warning. *Testimonies*, vol. 7, 35.

The things of the world are their idols. **These interpose between the soul and Christ**, and the solemn and awful realities that are crowding upon us are but dimly seen and faintly realized. *Ibid.* vol. 5, 456.

He, the great Teacher, was in the world; He was the light of the world; but Satan interposed his hellish shadow **between** Him and the souls whom Christ came to save. *The Signs of the Times*, March 20, 1901.

We entreat of you who oppose the light of truth, to **stand out of the way of God's people.** Let Heaven-sent light shine forth upon them in clear and steady rays. *Review and Herald*, May 27, 1890.

Let no one run the risk of interposing himself **between** the people and the message of Heaven. The message of God will come to the people; and if there were no voice among men to give it, the very stones would cry out. *Counsels to Writers and Editors*, 38.

The Sabbath is the Lord's test, and no man, be he king, priest, or ruler, is authorized to come **between** God and man. *Testimonies*, vol. 9, 234.

But when one man allows another to step in **between** him and the duty that God has pointed out to him. . . . such a man, instead of growing and developing, will lose his spirituality. *Ibid.*, 280.

God means just what He says. Man has interposed **between** God and the people, and the Lord has sent forth the third angel with the message. *Ibid.*, vol. 8, 94.

### **He Shall Come to His End**

"Yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him" is the announcement of the final fall of the king of the north-Babylon, the mother of harlots, papal Rome, the man of sin, Catholicism:

Then was the part of the hand sent from him; and this writing was written. And this is the writing that was written, MENE, MENE, TEKEL, UPHARSIN. This is the interpretation of the thing: MENE; God hath numbered thy kingdom, and finished it. TEKEL; Thou art weighed in the balances, and art found wanting. PERES; Thy kingdom is divided, and given to the Medes and Persians.... In that night was Belshazzar the king of the Chaldeans slain. Daniel 5:24-28, 30.

The final judgment of Babylon is a weighing in the balances of the sanctuary:

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?** I Peter 4:17.

Forasmuch as thou sawest that **the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold;** the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure. Daniel 2:45.

And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practice, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; **and he shall magnify himself in his heart,** and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; **but he shall be broken without hand.** Daniel 8:23-25.

No human effort will stop the march of the king of the north. Only God will bring him down, and none shall help him.

Praise the Lord!

## 20- REVELATION EIGHTEEN

AND after these things I saw another angel come down from heaven, having great power; and the earth was lightened with his glory

And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

For **all nations** have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and **the kings of the earth** have committed fornication with her, and **the merchants of the earth** are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.

Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her double according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled **fill** to her double.

### Plagues in a Day

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

### Judgment in an Hour

And **the kings of the earth,** who have committed fornication and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail her, and lament for her, when they shall see the smoke of her burning, standing afar off for the fear of her torment, saying, Alas, alas **that great city Babylon,** that mighty city! for **in one hour** is thy judgment come.

### Financial Collapse in an Hour

And **the merchants of the earth** shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more: The merchandise of gold, and silver, and precious stones, and of pearls, and **fine** linen, and purple, and silk, and scarlet, and all thyine wood, and all manner vessels of ivory, and all manner vessels of most precious wood, and of brass, and iron, and marble, and cinnamon, and odours, and ointments, and frankincense, and wine, and oil, and fine flour, and wheat, and beasts, and sheep, and horses, and chariots, and slaves, and souls of men.

And the fruits that thy soul lusted after are departed from thee, and all things which were dainty and goodly are departed from thee, and thou shalt find them no more at all.

**The merchants** of these things, which **were made rich by her**, shall stand afar off for the fear of her torment, weeping and wailing, and saying, Alas, alas, **that great city**, that was clothed in fine linen, and purple, and scarlet, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls!

### **Desolation in an Hour**

For **in one hour** so great riches is come to naught. And **every shipmaster**, and all the company in ships, and sailors, and as many as trade by sea, stood afar off, and cried when they saw the smoke of her burning, saying, What city is like unto **this great city!**

And they cast dust on their heads, and cried, weeping and wailing, saying, Alas, alas, **that great city**, wherein were made rich all that had ships in the sea by reason of her costliness! for **in one hour** is she made desolate.

Rejoice over her, thou heaven, and ye holy apostles and prophets; for God hath avenged you on her.

And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, Thus with violence shall **that great city Babylon** be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.

And the voice of harpers, and musicians, and of pipers, and trumpeters, shall be heard no more at all in thee; and no craftsmen, of whatsoever craft he be, shall be found any more in thee; and the sound of a millstone shall be heard no more at all in thee; and the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee; and the voice of the bridegroom and of the bride shall be heard no more at all in thee: for **thy merchants were the great men of the earth**; for by thy sorceries were **all nations** deceived.

And in her was found the blood of prophets, and of saints, and of all that were slain upon the earth. Revelation 18.

### **Daniel 12:1**

And **at that time** shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book. Daniel 12: 1.

When the third angel's message closes, mercy no longer pleads for the guilty inhabitants of the earth. The people of God have accomplished their work. They have received "**the latter rain..... the refreshing from the presence of the Lord,**" and they are prepared for **the trying hour** before them. Angels are hastening to and fro in heaven. An angel returning from the earth announces that his work is done; the final test has been brought upon the world, and all who have proved themselves loyal to the divine precepts have received "**the seal of the living God.**" Then Jesus ceases His

intercession in the sanctuary above. He lifts His hands and with a loud voice says, "It is done." *The Great Controversy*, 613.

### **In Closing**

Sister White states that **scenes similar to, and much of the history** of Daniel 11 will be repeated. Our study of Daniel 11:40-45 reveals a sequence similar to verses 30-36, which she especially identified as scenes to be repeated. The historical record and prophetic testimony describing the first rise of the Papacy in A.D. 538 is parallel to the sequence which began with the fall of the Soviet Union. The future Sunday law, and the following persecution, also presents a close parallel to these events of history. **We have been forewarned!**

### **"Grieved"**

Since the time of the end in 1798, Rome has been "grieved" because of her inability to rule the world. She has had an ongoing war with the forces of Communism, over which until recently she has been unable to triumph.

### **"Arms Shall Stand to His Part"**

At this point she has **returned**, as her deadly wound is beginning to be healed, and all the world is wondering after her. Military and economic strength have come to her aid to vanquish the foe that has been continually attacking her.

The next phase of this history is yet future, but it still parallels the **scenes and history** under discussion. For when Rome comes into **the glorious land** by the enactment of a national Sunday law, persecution of the faithful will begin, and the faithful will begin to shine. Coinciding with this test, some of those who have been faithful will compromise, and their lights will go out.

With two walls removed, he will set a course to remove the final wall preparatory to returning to the throne of the world. After the ten kings give their strength unto him, the pope will be set upon the throne of the world and looked to as the head of the church. True to his character, he will exalt himself until God brings him to his end.

### **One Purpose of Prophetic Study**

It is God's intent to wake His people up through the study of prophecy.

It is God's intent to forewarn His people of the coming crisis. Once again, as in the pioneer movement of this church, God is calling.

### **May the Lord Add His Blessing to This Study**

Are we to wait until the fulfillment of the prophecies of the end **before we say anything concerning them?** Of what value will our words be then? Shall we wait until God's judgments fall upon the transgressor before we tell him how to avoid them? **Where is our faith in the Word of God?** Must we see things foretold come to pass before we will believe what He has said? In clear, distinct rays light has come to us, showing us that the great day of the Lord is near at hand, **"even at the doors."** Let us read and understand before it is too late. *Testimonies*, vol. 9, 20.

The followers of Christ are to combine in a strong effort **to call the attention of the world to the fast-fulfilling prophecies of the Word of God.** Infidelity and spiritualism are gaining a strong hold in the world. Shall those to whom great light has been given be cold and faithless now? *Ibid.*, 43.

May God help His people to arouse and walk and work as men and women on the borders of the eternal world. Soon an awful surprise is coming upon the inhabitants

of the world. - - . **Now is the time for us to give the warning message.** Ibid., vol. 8, 37.

Let the watchmen now lift up their, voice and give the message which is present truth for this time. **Let us show the people where we are in prophetic history** and seek to arouse the spirit of true Protestantism, liberty so long enjoyed. Ibid., vol. 5, 716. awaking the world to a sense of the value of the privileges of religious freedom.

## **APPENDIX: PREPARING FOR THE CLOSE OF PROBATION**

by Louis F. Were, 1957.

**[Bold type emphasis supplied by Jeff Pippenger.]**

### **The Great Significance of the Present Ferment Among the Nations**

(All emphasis supplied unless otherwise noted.)

"The watchman is to know the time of the night." *Testimonies*, vol. 6, 407. "The watchman... will proclaim the time of night." Ibid., vol. 8, 304.

The closing scenes of earth's history are fast approaching. Present-day, fast-moving events among the nations are shaping up to form that pattern outlined by the index finger of prophecy. The Lord has not given us the exact time for the close of probation, but He has informed us concerning certain national and international events which would herald the imminence of that solemn hour of final decision and eternal destiny. While there are a few definite events yet to occur before that fateful hour, there may be discerned in today's happenings in the national arena that which alerts students of prophecy and convinces them that these are indeed the last hours of probationary time.

Crowding upon us are the crises of the nations: The unique crisis of the Suez Canal involving Egypt, Britain, France, the United Nations, the United States, the Eastern nations and the world in general; friction between the Israeli government and surrounding Arab countries; the menacing shadow of the Russian bear; and the upheavals in the Russian-dominated countries of Hungary, Poland, and so forth. America's stand even against her wartime allies over the Suez crisis has given her a new influence over some of the Eastern nations. Now comes another significant move—the far-reaching, historic "Eisenhower Doctrine," which throws a protective shield of U.S. power around the Middle East. The obvious spreading prestige and power of the United States is significant to the student of Holy Writ. These events are but forerunners of far greater ones to follow.

It is surely time to re-study the prophetic Word and to understand current happenings in the light of what is clearly revealed therein. Remember: "Many of the prophecies are about to be fulfilled in quick succession." *Testimonies to Ministers*, 116. That is, certain events in the world will occur that will greatly accelerate the final scenes, and precipitate persecution for God's people. It is for this reason that present-day, international events are of the greatest importance to the people of God, for we see unfolding the very condition of things which the Lord in His prophetic Word declared would transpire as we near the close of probation.

This is not the time for guesswork. Has not the Spirit of Prophecy declared that the Christian "has a chart pointing out every waymark on the heavenward journey, and he *ought not to guess at anything?*" *The Great Controversy*, 598. At this time we should be alert to recognize the meaning of present-day happenings. For a time, within recent months, it seemed we were surely on the brink of a third world war. Cardinal Spellman

declared: "The entire world is a volcano that may erupt at any time in the flames of war." *Herald*, Melbourne, December 15, 1956. The Pope, in his Christmas [1956] message, told the world's 470 million Roman Catholics that in present circumstances, they may lawfully go to war under certain conditions. He declared: "For our part we, as head of the church, have up to now avoided, just as we did in previous cases, calling Christendom to a Crusade. We can, however, call for full understanding of the fact that where religion is a vital living heritage, men do look upon the struggle unjustly forced on them by their enemy as a Crusade." *Argus*, December 24, 1956.

Roman Catholics are given the green light to engage in war against **the forces of Communism**. The Pope appealed to the powers of Europe to **unite in the face of their common foe**.

.Are we awake to the present and developing world situation? What is the significance to Seventh-day Adventists of the great setback to Communistic prestige? **Reader, do you know the prophecy outlining this Communistic decline?** Do you understand the tremendous import of recent Russian reverses?

There are many indications that Soviet aggression in Europe is on the ebb, though no doubt, efforts will be made to redeem her loss of influence and power. Almost the whole world has united in revulsion against the Soviet horror in Hungary. However, the re-conquest of Hungary by the Russians will not end the matter. It will not return the Soviet Empire to the outward strength it had before. The whole structure has been shaken, and Moscow's policies have been thrown off course. Hungary's uprising has shown weak spots in Russia's Empire. The Hungarian satellite gave notice that it wanted to become a neutral. As Moscow saw it, to let the Hungarians go would have been to invite similar defections in Romania, Czechoslovakia, and perhaps other border states. The breakaway, the Kremlin considered, might reduce Soviet power to strike westward into Europe, and would even encourage Ukrainians and other national groups within the Soviet Union to challenge Moscow rule. The suppression of the Hungarian revolt by force has temporarily prevented a wider anti-Soviet uprising in Eastern Europe.

The present surge of world opinion against Russia over Hungary has compelled neutral Asiatics to change their opinion of her.

The significant feature of the Hungarian uprising against Soviet brutality was the leading part played by young people. It was the same in Poland. Such demonstrations for a greater degree of freedom, as have occurred in Russia itself, and are admitted by authorities there, have come from students and the younger generation generally. This sort of unrest seems to prevail throughout the satellite countries, and thus we may anticipate future possibilities. It means that in any third world war, Russia could no longer rely on her satellites. She could not push her forces right across the face of Europe to the English Channel without a horrible feeling of insecurity, and of forces rising to her rear and along her supply lines.

The Hungarian revolt gave an impetus to the forces fighting for freedom within Soviet-held territories, but Moscow's unrelenting grip hold them under control for the present. Russian actions in suppressing the Hungarian revolt have had a devastating effect on the reputation and position of the Communistic parties everywhere else in the world. Considerable cracks have been revealed in the Communistic facade.

As an illustration of this fact, we quote from an article appearing in *The Herald*, January 4, 1957:

"Membership of the Australian Communist Party declined rapidly last year. Members have been steadily walking out of the party since the Russian attack upon Stalin-which *confused* many-and the Hungarian massacres which *horrified* many. The

top Australian Communist, Mr. L. L. Sharkey, the party's secretary, laments in the current issue of the *Communist Review*:

... In the more recent period, the party has not grown in numbers, but on the contrary, our membership has gradually and more or less continuously dwindled.'

"Mr. Sharkey naturally plays down the effect of the Soviet denunciation of Stalin and the Hungarian killings on the party walk-out. But he makes some interesting admissions. 'A few members of the Communist Parties have succumbed to the raging of the reaction over Hungary,' he says lightly . . . Hungary and Stalin have highlighted the 'dwindling' membership of the Communist Party. But it has been going on-'gradually,' as Mr. Sharkey says-since about 1949." After pointing out instances of Communist defeat, and referring to its remaining strength, this article concludes, by saying: "The Red strength in unions, however, has been at least halved since 1949."

**For a number of years the writer has declared that Communism's power would crumble or fall before the rising power of the Papacy, as declared by Daniel's last prophecy concerning the king of the north.** World events are now coming into line with the interpretation previously presented.

Just as this brochure was going to press, the following article by Dr. V. V. Tilea, who was Rumanian minister in London from 1933 to 1940, came to hand. He states:

"I believe that 1957 could be the year of the great collapse of Communism as we know it today, both inside and outside Russia. Much will depend, though, on the West. It is clear that the rising in Hungary, the new, more liberal regime in Poland, and the unrest in Rumania, Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria-and now reported among students in cities inside Russia itself have hit Russia much harder than any other developments since the war. These events are forcing Krushchev to a complete and, in many ways, agonizing reappraisal of his own and Russia's position. The reappraisal goes like this:

(1) The revolt of the Hungarian army and the defiance of the Polish army commanders mean that the Kremlin must write off most of the 50 divisions of satellite troops as a total loss.

(2) The Kremlin methods of indoctrinating the satellites' youth as a means of Permanently communizing their countries has failed. The ferment among youth is spreading rapidly not only through Eastern Europe and Red China, but through Russia itself.

(3) The Kremlin method of using satellite peoples as slave labor and stealing their products, while pretending that they are working towards a Communistic paradise, is no longer effective. This is shown by the fact that the workers of Poznan and the workers of Budapest led the counter revolt.

(4) The horror of Budapest has split almost all Communistic parties abroad. So the carefully built up Fifth Columns on which Russia relied to develop her scheme of world domination are collapsing.

(5) The Kremlin is beginning to lose the worldwide war of ideas. The brutal repression of the Hungarians has destroyed most of the goodwill Mr. Krushchev built up during his travels in Asia. It has also dimmed the Kremlin' hopes of winning over Germany, It is beginning to open the eyes of the Arab world to what Soviet protection means.

"It is well worth noting here that: Russia is beginning to hint that she might be willing to withdraw forces from Eastern Europe." *The Herald*, Melbourne, January 2, 1957.

After presenting further reasons for his belief that Communism is a crumbling system," he concludes his articles, saying: "I say: Call their bluff and Communism will recede from Europe."

Some years ago, when the writer published *The King of the North at Jerusalem and Europe and Armageddon*, Communistic forces were at the crest of their power, and the position taken in those books was simply based upon their exposition in the Word of God. With almost dramatic suddenness world events have changed, and have begun to justify the interpretation presented.

While Communism is still a great force and will, no doubt, yet reveal great strength and occasion further bloodshed in fighting for its existence, yet recent revelations indicate **that someday in the not-too-distant future, the forces of atheistic Communism will be temporarily subdued by the combined forces of Christendom.** This eventuality, which is even now discernible as emerging from the events precipitated by the Hungarian unrest, has been outlined in Bible prophecy to occur as one of the "great changes" bringing about "the final movements" which "will be rapid ones." *Testimonies*, vol. 9, 1 1. For when the way is open for the rise of the political power of the Papacy, it will not be long before God's people will experience persecution, which will greatly hasten the coming of the close of probation and the commencement of the day of God's wrath.

Communism is the one great internationally organized enemy which stands in the way of Papal political ascendancy. When Communism's prestige, power and influence have diminished sufficiently so that it is no longer able to prevent her from reaching her goal, "many of the prophecies" will "be fulfilled in quick succession." *Testimonies to Ministers*, 116.

For many years we as a people have talked, preached, and written much about "the final conflict." Now that present-day events proclaim in no uncertain voice the nearness of that conflict, we should follow the unerring finger of prophecy with absorbing interest, as it explains the tremendous significance of these things and graphically describes the far greater events near at hand.

The Spirit of Prophecy says:

"The fast-fulfilling signs of the times declare that the coming of Christ is near at hand. The days in which we live are solemn and important. . . The calamities by land and by sea, the unsettled state of society, the alarms of war, are portentous. They forecast approaching events of the greatest magnitude. The agencies of evil are combining their forces, and consolidating. They are strengthening for the last great crisis. Great changes are soon to take place in our world, and the final movements will be rapid ones. The condition of things in the world shows that troublous times are right upon us. The daily papers are full of indications of a terrible conflict in the near future . . . The world is stirred with the spirit of war. **The prophecy of the eleventh chapter of Daniel has nearly reached its complete fulfillment.** Soon the scenes of trouble spoken of in the prophecies will take place." *Testimonies*, vol. 9, 11, 14.

These stirring words are so forcible and so accurate in the light of present-day happenings that one's confidence in the Spirit of Prophecy is strengthened by such comparison. A few of the salient features of this quotation are:

- (1) Present-day troubles forecast approaching events of the greatest magnitude—that is, far greater troubles are yet to come.
- (2) "The agencies of evil are combining their forces, and consolidating, They are strengthening for the last great crisis."
- (3) "Great changes are soon to take place in our world."

(4) "And the final movements will be rapid ones."

(5) "The spirit of war,, is connected with the fulfillment of the eleventh chapter of Daniel.

(6) "The prophecy of the eleventh chapter of Daniel has nearly reached its complete fulfillment."

We are thus directed to the concluding verses of the prophecy of Daniel eleven for an understanding of those world-shaking events, those troubles among the nations *leading to* and during that time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation. See Daniel 12: 1.

Before considering the words of Daniel 11:40-45, which do outline a troublous period before the actual coming of the great, final time of trouble let us recall that elsewhere the Lord's servant has written concerning this time of trouble that will proceed "*the*" time of trouble such as never was:

"At the commencement of *the time of trouble [before probation closed]*, we were filled with the Holy Ghost as we went forth and proclaimed the Sabbath more fully.... And at this time God's chosen all saw clearly that we had the truth, and they came out and endured the persecution with us. I saw the sword, famine, pestilence, and great confusion in the land. The wicked thought that we had brought the judgments upon them, and they rose up and took counsel to rid the earth of us, thinking that then the evil would be stayed. *In the time of trouble [after probation closes] . . .* " *Early Writings*, 3 3-34.

Observe that as trouble increases among the nations, the Sabbath message is to be proclaimed more fully, and that persecution is to increase. Explaining later the fuller meaning of this prophecy, the Lord's servant says:

"The commencement of that time of trouble,' here mentioned, does not refer to the time when the plagues shall begin to be poured out, but to a short period just before they are poured out, while Christ is in the Sanctuary. At that time, while the work of salvation is closing, *trouble will be coming on the earth*, and the nations will be angry, yet held in check so as not to prevent the work of the third angel. At that time the 'latter rain,' or refreshing from the presence of the Lord, will come, to give power to the loud voice of the third angel, and prepare the saints to stand in the period when the seven last plagues shall be poured out." *Ibid.*, 85-86.

Thus the situation is made quite clear: troubles among the nations will increase as we near the finish of the work of salvation as the Sabbath truth is proclaimed more fully. "Sword, famine, pestilence, and great confusion in the land"-and a time of persecution for God's people. As God's people today are not being persecuted, it is obvious that a great change is to occur, as stated by the Lord's servant. Something is to happen that will make possible a time of persecution. What was it that brought about a cessation of persecution in the past?-the waning of Papal political power. What will bring about a renewal of persecution in the not-too-distant future?-the increase of Papal political power. The Spirit of Prophecy plainly states:

"Prophecy foretells a restoration of her power." *The Great Controversy*, 579. "She is silently growing into power ... she is strengthening her forces to further her own ends when the time shall come for her to strike." *Ibid.*, 5 8 1.

Do world conditions indicate that the time for her to strike is near? The uprisings against Communistic domination in Roman Catholic countries Hungary, Poland, etc.- have revealed that the Papal forces are preparing to strike back, and are willing to join forces even with Protestants for this purpose. These incidents indicate not only a

present struggle, but foreshadow future strife as these two forces become more and more locked in deadly conflict.

These two world organizations similarly constituted in totalitarianism are striving for the supremacy, and they see in each other a mortal foe. Neither will be content until either one or the other dominates the political scene. Recent attempts by the Russian leaders to assume a benign, dovelike appearance (spoiled by events in Hungary) have not altered the official Communistic belief stated by Lenin that "it is inconceivable the Soviet Republic should continue for a long period side by side with imperialistic states. Ultimately one or the other must conquer. Meanwhile a number of terrible clashes between the Soviet Republic and the bourgeois states is inevitable."

Millions of Roman Catholics are imbued with the teaching that the Pope is the Vicar of Christ, and that, as such, he should be the recognized head in Europe-and from there, obeyed throughout the world. Thus **both the Vatican and Kremlin are striving for world domination**, and it must be admitted that they are powers to be reckoned with. Their ambitions are one of the causes of world unrest.

**While Russia is the spiritual head of the Communistic movement**, and many workers of the West have called Soviet workers "the shock troops of the world proletariat," yet those possessed with a revolutionary spirit against present forms of government in the so-called Capitalistic countries are to be found everywhere. As stated by the Spirit of Prophecy:

"The centralizing of wealth and power ... the spirit of unrest, of riot and bloodshed, the worldwide dissemination of the same teachings that led to the French Revolution-all are tending *to involve the whole world in a struggle similar to that which convulsed France.*" *Education, 228.*

Thus we may grasp an idea of the intensity and the scope of the present, tense situation. Two giants are at grips groping for a stranglehold on each other. **Their conflicting forces are the subjects of the closing verses of Daniel 11.** These verses describe, not small, insignificant powers, but the contest between two formidable forces whose clashing interests jeopardize the peace of mankind. We need not wonder as to the outcome, for the Scriptures and the Spirit of Prophecy emphatically declare: (1) that the Papal forces are destined to exert a temporary, brief power over atheistic Communism, and (2) that Papal power, however, will be dissipated suddenly when God intervenes to save His people from death at the hands of the beast and the false prophet. Then, the enemies of the Papacy will wreak belated vengeance upon this religious tyrannical power that is now "employing every device to extend her influence and increase her power in preparation for a fierce and determined conflict to regain control of the world, to re-establish persecution, and to undo all that Protestantism has done." *The Great Controversy, 565.*

Thus the Spirit of Prophecy declares that the Papal forces are to engage in "a fierce and determined conflict" to achieve these aims. This may be partly seen in the uprisings in Hungary, Poland, and so forth. Moreover, if the hour which suits her purpose to strike is at hand, then we may expect that there will be further uprisings, further bloodshed in the attempt to throw off the Communistic yoke and to re-establish her own power. The world's political barometer indicates that further stormy weather may be expected, and until the Papacy regains her lost power and re-establishes persecution, there will be further bloodshed.

This is precisely what the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy outline to occur before the close of probation. The preliminary time of trouble to occur before the close of probation will be occasioned largely by Papal efforts to throw off yokes imposed upon her by Communism, and also by efforts made by Communistic forces to maintain their grip on her restive satellite countries, and to stir up difficulties for the capitalistic

"Western" world in other strategic countries. "I saw the sword, famine, pestilence, and great confusion in the land trouble will be coming on the earth, and the nations will be angry, yet held in check so as not to prevent the work of the third angel." *Early Writings*, 34, 85.

"Soon great trouble will arise among the nations-trouble that will not cease until Jesus comes." *Review and Herald*, February 11, 1904.

"The wars and rumors of wars, the destruction by fire and flood, say clearly that *the time of trouble, which is to increase until the end*, is very near at hand. We have no time to lose. The world is stirred with a spirit of war. The prophecies of the eleventh chapter of Daniel have almost reached their final fulfillment." *Ibid.*, November 24, 1904.

Thus we are again directed to the prophecy found in the closing verses of Daniel eleven for an understanding of "the time of trouble, which is to increase until the end"-trouble that will lead to the restoration of Papal power, which will last but a little while followed by its inevitable doom under the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> plagues.

The Spirit of Prophecy, writing of the events leading up to the close of probation, says:

"Those who honour the law of God have been accused of bringing judgments upon the world, and they will be regarded as the cause of the fearful convulsions of nature and the *strife and bloodshed among men* that are filling the earth with woe. The power attending the last warning message has enraged the wicked ... and Satan will excite to still greater intensity the spirit of hatred and persecution." *The Great Controversy*, 614.

At present we are witnessing a decline in the prestige of Communistic Russia. Russia's massacres in Hungary have caused her stocks to slump heavily-a signal heralding a modern retreat from Moscow. No doubt efforts will be made to redeem her loss of influence and power. All of this adds up to further friction, further bloodshed as the scroll of history unrolls.

While our deepest sympathy goes out to the victims of Communistic brutality, which clearly reveals the lack of the Christian virtues of love and mercy, yet we must not blind ourselves to the clear warning of the prophetic Word-that the humbling of the forces of Communism is not the herald of a time of peace and harmony among society thus delivered from the tyrannies of Communism. That Word declares that the weakening and suppression of the forces of Communism will be followed by the rise of religious tyranny that will seek to enslave the whole of mankind in its unrelenting grip.

The time is near when spiritual forces backed by political power will dominate the nations and bring persecution and peril to the people of God, and will be revealed in the not-too-distant future when Papal plans for her exaltation among the nations will become more obvious.

**Should there be further uprisings in previously Papal-dominated countries against Communistic rule, it would then appear that the Papacy feels that the time has come to strike out against her worldwide foe, to weaken and later to overthrow. By her uprisings in this way she could influence the Protestant world to believe that she is indeed the bulwark against the dreaded Communistic regime. In this way Protestants are led to sympathize with Roman Catholics, leading to a bond of fellowship between them in the political sphere.** Already this has occurred where generous Protestant governments have thrown open their countries for refugees fleeing all propagandists, making the most of from the tyrannies of Communism. Papal propagandists, making the most of such situations, have already influenced Protestants in their favour against Communistic governments.

## MARSHALLING THE NATIONS FOR THE FINAL CONFLICT

As time proceeds and further uprisings occur, the discerning eyes of those guided by the unerring hand of prophecy will witness a pattern unfolding. Moreover, this is what we are instructed to do by the Spirit of Prophecy Observe the following statement from the pen of God's servant:

"We are to consider the dealings of God with the nations of the earth. We are to see in history the fulfillment of prophecy . . . and to understand the *progress of events in the marshalling of the nations for the final conflict of the great controversy.*" *Testimonies*, vol. 8, 307.

This is precisely what is transpiring in the national arena today. "*Already the inhabitants of the earth are marshalling under the leading of the prince of darkness, and this is but the beginning of the end.*" *Ibid.*, 49.

The Lord's servant informed us that "the agencies of evil" would combine, and would strengthen "for the last great crisis," declaring also that "great changes" would "take place in our world," followed by "the final movements" which "will be rapid ones."

In the troubled period that sooner or later must come, Communism will go down before the rise of Papal political power, helped by Protestants whose hatred of Communism will be artfully fed by Papal propagandists. The final movements will be rapid ones, for once the Papacy has the power for which she is striving, she will lose no time in dealing with those who obey the Sabbath commandment as given in the Decalogue, and who thus deny her the right to change God's law, and who refuse to obey her by the observance of Sunday' Historic pages are replete with records which reveal "the spirit which Rome manifested toward the Sabbath and its defenders." *The Great Controversy*, 574.

The reader's attention is directed to the following statement from the pen of God's servant:

"Soon the battle will be waged fiercely between those who serve God and those who serve Mm not ... In the issue of the conflict, all Christendom will be divided into two great classes, those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus, and those who worship the beast and his image and receive his mark ... Fearful tests and trials await the people of God. The spirit of war is stirring the nations from one end of the earth to the other. But in the midst of the time of trouble that is coming-a time of trouble such as has not been since there was a nation God's chosen people will stand unmoved." *Testimonies*, vol. 9, 15-17.

The above statements describing the "battle" which "will be waged fiercely between those who serve God and those who serve Him not" are found in the first article in Volume 9 of the *Testimonies*, entitled: "The Last Crisis," 11-18. It is in this chapter that the inspired pen directs us to the closing verses of the prophecy of Daniel eleven: "The world is stirred with the spirit of war. The prophecy of the eleventh chapter of Daniel has nearly reached its complete fulfillment." *Ibid.*, 14.

From the setting in which this reference to the concluding verses of the prophecy of Daniel 11 is mentioned, we gather that these verses of Daniel depict trouble coming among the nations as the Papacy pursues its course of seeking to achieve political power, which it will attain through a gory path. Then, having reached its goal, with the world temporarily subdued, it brings about the last crisis by enforcing the false Sabbath day in defiance of the warning message of the third angel. See Revelation 14:9-11.

Thus, as stated in the above extract from Volume 8 of the *Testimonies*, 307, the strife among the nations must be understood in the light of the fact that spiritual forces are being mustered by the invisible hosts leading to the last crisis over the Sabbath and

loyalty to the government of God. This is exactly what the writer has sought to portray in some of his previous publications, particularly *The King of the North at Jerusalem*. Briefly stated, Daniel 11:40-45 describes how the Papacy would receive "a deadly wound" [Revelation 13:3] at the hand of "the king of the south"-that is, "Egypt," which is said by God's servant to represent the forces of atheistic Communism. See *The Great Controversy*, 269.

The eleventh chapter of Revelation is the Divine interpretation of the eleventh chapter of Daniel. The persecution of the church for 1,260 years by "the king of the north" is described in Daniel 11:33-40. The same persecution for 1,260 years is pictured in Revelation 11:2-3 as an attack upon "the holy city" [Jerusalem], which the Spirit of Prophecy interprets to mean "the true church." See *The Great Controversy*, 266. In this way we at once discern that the Palestinian setting of Daniel II is interpreted by the Lord in Revelation II in a worldwide sense in relation to the church, and only in this way can the prophecy of Daniel II be interpreted aright. The literal interpretation is impossible, but the spiritual application conveys a love message from the Lord to His church.

In giving us identifying characteristics of "the king of the north," the Lord, through Daniel, said that this "king" would "exalt himself, and magnify himself." This verse is quoted and applied by the inspired Paul in 2 Thessalonians 2:4 to the Papal apostasy, which he pictures as having entered "the holy city" and seated himself "in the temple of God." The term "the temple of God," following the rejection of the Jewish nation as God's people, is the New Testament designation for the Christian church, the spiritual "temple of God." Thus the whole of the New Testament conception of the church is that it has taken the place of national Israel, even including its locality in "the land of Israel" with the "temple of God" in the midst, the dwelling place of the invisible Holy Spirit.

Throughout the books of Jeremiah, Isaiah, Ezekiel, Zechariah and Daniel, Babylon on the Euphrates is said to be "north" and the king of Babylon on several occasions is designated "the king of the north," or "the king from the north." See Ezekiel 26:7; Jeremiah 25:9. That the book of Revelation (as does the book of Daniel) pictures the church as being in Palestine, having taken the place of national Israel, is revealed throughout that book. For instance, God addresses His people, Israel, saying: "Come out of her, [Babylon] my people" Revelation 18:4. When God's people "come out" of "Babylon," they fulfill the type of God's ancient Israel coming out of Babylon to return to Jerusalem to repair the city walls and the temple which had been destroyed by (the Babylonians). **It is impossible to understand the third angel's message without applying this principle of type and antitype-the literal Israel and the literal land, city, and temple in the Old Testament, and the spiritual application of these things in the New Testament.**

By this principle, *which is applied throughout the New Testament*, we know that as Babylon is the spiritual king of the north-the enemy of "the true church," "the holy city"- "the king of the south"- "Egypt"-must likewise be understood "*spiritually*." This is the very interpretation given in Revelation 11:8 when describing the atheistic forces which were to arise when the 1,260 years of Papal supremacy were drawing to their close. See Revelation II: 3-13. Commenting upon the prophecy of Revelation I 1, the Lord's servant says: "The 'great city' in whose streets the witnesses are slain, and where their dead bodies lie, 'is *spiritually Egypt*' . . . *This is atheism*; and the nation *represented by Egypt* would give voice to similar denial of the claims of the living God." *The Great Controversy*, 269. Thus the Lord's messenger applies "Egypt" "*spiritually*" to the atheistic anticlerical Communists at the time of the French Revolution. The reader is urged to read the whole of the chapter in *The Great Controversy* dealing with "The French Revolution" for amplification of this application. Light is given as fully as language can make it clear that "the king of the south"- "Egypt"-is applied "*spiritually*" as the symbol of anticlerical, Communistic, atheistic forces. **Any attempt to literalize "the kings of the north" or "south," or "the glorious holy mountain," would be to**

**interpret the scriptures in defiance of the clearest heavenly light, and rob the church of a wonderful message from God which concerns her welfare.**

The Lord gave the prophecy concerning "the king of the north" to *encourage His people* by pointing out that "the king of the north" would receive a "deadly wound" "at the time of the end." Daniel 11:40; Revelation 13:3, 12, 14.

This deadly wound would be inflicted by the rise of atheistic forces of Communism "*represented by Egypt*" [*The Great Controversy*, 269] which did "push at him." Daniel 11:40. *Thus the Lord revealed His love and care over His church* by permitting the rise of the forces of atheism to wound the Papal persecutor of saints. In the Old Testament, instances are given where the Lord permitted one force to oppose another force which was making war upon His people. Instances of this kind are presented by the Lord's servant:

"God's providence had held in check the forces that opposed the truth. Charles V was bent on crushing the Reformation, but often as he raised his hand to strike, he had been forced to turn aside the blow. Again and again the immediate destruction of all who dared to oppose themselves to Rome appeared inevitable; but at the critical moment the armies of the Turk appeared on the eastern frontier, or the king of France, or even the Pope himself, jealous of the increasing greatness of the emperor, made war upon him: and thus, amid the strife and tumult of nations, the Reformation had been left to strengthen and extend." *Ibid.*, 197.

**"The king of the south" did "push at" "the king of the north" "at the time of the end," for the French Revolution was really a revolt against the authority and power of the Papal church, which suffered severely at the hands of the revolutionaries.** "All too well the people had learned the lessons of cruelty and torture which Rome had so diligently taught. A day of retribution at last had come.... Unsparing Rome now felt the deadly power of those whom she had trained to delight in deeds of blood.... The scaffolds ran red with the blood of the priests.... The Roman Catholic clergy experienced all those woes which their church had so freely inflicted on the gentle heretics." *Ibid.*, 283.

I But "the deadly wound" inflicted "at the time of the end" upon "the king of the north" by "the king of the south" is to be "healed," [see Revelation 13:3, 12, 14] when all the world will "wonder after the beast." It is to outline the restoration of the political and spiritual power of the Papacy that the Lord gave His church the prophecy of Daniel 11:40-45, for the "restoration of her power" [*The Great Controversy*, 579] will bring persecution to God's people—it is for this reason *and for this only* that the Lord gave this all-important prophecy to *His beloved people*. Also, it is to hide this message of warning and of comfort from the church that Satan has brought in a counter interpretation, which successfully turns the minds of many to that which is worldly *and without any spiritual value to them*.

**The prophecy concerning "the king of the north" and his opponent "the king of the south" came to Daniel in response to his prayer for further information concerning the work of the Papacy and the church of God. He heard the mighty angel Gabriel ask the Lord Jesus in His pre-incarnate days: "How long" would the Papal abomination be permitted to tread under foot" "the sanctuary and the host"? Daniel 8:13.**

That the persecuting power of the Papacy is the theme concerning the wounding of "the king of the north" "*at the time of the end*" [Daniel 11:40] in 1798 is obvious when we observe that the question of "*How long*" would the Papacy be permitted to persecute the church is answered in connection with the 1,260 and 1,290 days [Daniel 12:6-11], the termination of which locates for us the commencement of "**the** time of the end."

Daniel was given further information that the work of "the king of the north," in invading the "land of Israel" and setting himself up as God in the temple of God in "the holy city," would be exposed at the ending of the 2,300 days-1,335 days [Daniel 12:12508 A.D.-1843-1844] from the time the Papacy was established politically by Clovis, the French king-when the Lord's last-day message would reveal fully the work of our Lord Jesus as the true high Priest in the heavenly sanctuary, and also in the spiritual temple of God in "the holy city," "the true church."

For further consideration of the details of this prophecy, the reader is urged to obtain *The King of the North at Jerusalem*. In our present consideration, we desire to draw attention to the fact that the rest of the prophecy concerning "the king of the north" describes how this politico-religious power (for this prophecy emphasizes the *religious* nature of his power) would eventually recover from its deadly wound and would then "**come** against" the king of the south 'Egypt'-which symbolizes the atheistic Communistic forces 'like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships.'" Daniel 11:40. That is, every weapon and every avenue available will be employed in the fierceness of the conflict. "The Roman church ... is employing every device to extend her influence and increase her power in preparation for a fierce and determined conflict to regain control of the world, to reestablish persecution, and to undo all that Protestantism has done." *The Great Controversy*, 565. "She is silently growing into power. . . . Stealthily and unsuspectedly she is strengthening her forces to further her own ends when the time shall come for her to strike. All she desires is vantage-ground, and this is already being given her. We shall soon see and feel what the purpose of the Roman element is. Whoever shall believe and obey the Word of God will thereby incur reproach and persecution." *Ibid.*, 581. **This is the burden of the last verses of Daniel 11.**

The king of the north-the Papal forces-will subdue the anticlerical atheistic forces of the king of the south-Egypt. That is, nominal Christianity will subdue the Communistic forces sponsored by the Soviet Republic. As there are earnest, though misguided, Communists who will fight to the death against the religious tyranny they see coming back to life, and as Rome is equally determined to rise to power again, the world is therefore destined to witness much bloodshed as these two powers struggle for the mastery. While these two powers fight each other, the church is more or less permitted-under increasing difficulties-to carry on with her work, which position is described by the Lord's servant:

"At that time, while the work of salvation is closing, trouble will be coming on the earth, and the nations will be angry, yet held in check so as not to prevent the work of the third angel. At that time the 'latter rain,' or refreshing from the presence of the Lord, will come." *Early Writings*, 85-86.

The concluding portion of Daniel I I shows how the king of the north, after subduing the king of the south, then turns upon the people of God. Because they refuse to obey his biddings in disobeying their God, this willful, wicked king will then "go forth with great fury to destroy, and to make away many" of God's children. However, that is where, he meets the Lord Jesus, "the great Prince which standeth for" His people. Daniel 1 1:44-45; 12: 1. Attempting to destroy the people of God, he "shall come to his end, and none shall help him." The case of anyone who persists in persecuting the people of God is hopeless indeed. *God's people are assured in this prophecy* that God loves them, and has assured them that He will be with them, and will deliver them from all their foes.

From this remarkable prophecy we are able to understand the present uprisings in Roman Catholic countries against the Communists. We are also able to know that "many countries" (Daniel 11:40-41) will be dominated by Papal influence, and that "the

land of Egypt shall not escape." Verse 42. That is, "all the world will wonder after the beast"-including nations which today are under the sovereignty of atheistic Communism.

"Let the principle be established in the United States, that the church may employ or control the power of the state ... and the triumph of Rome in this country is assured." *The Great Controversy*, 581. "Protestants will work upon the rulers of the land to make laws to restore the lost ascendancy of the man of sin.... Roman Catholic principles will be taken under the care and protection of the state." *Review and Herald*, June 15, 1897, quoted in *The Ministry*, March, 1940.

"When the nation [U.S.A.] . . . abandons Protestant principles, and through its legislature gives countenance and support to Romanism in limiting religious liberty, then God will work in His own power for His people that are true. The tyranny of Rome will be exercised, but Christ is our refuge." *Testimonies to Ministers*, 206. "As America, the land of religious liberty, shall unite with the Papacy in forcing the conscience and compelling men to honour the false sabbath, *the people of every country* on the globe will be led to follow her example." *Testimonies*, vol. 6, 18. "*Foreign nations* will follow the example of the United States. Though she leads out, yet the same crisis will come upon our people in *all parts of the world*." *Ibid.*, 395.

This is exactly what is pictured in the triumphant progress of the king of the north in Daniel 11:40-45, following the healing of its deadly wound received from the king of the south-atheistic Communism.

With what interest the student of this portion of Holy Writ, who has seen how present-day events are unfolding according to this prophetic Word, will watch keenly and understandingly the struggle between the king of the north and the king of the south, until at last through much bloodshed and strife, the Papacy's great internationally-organized enemy [atheistic anticlerical Communism] is subdued temporarily, and she once again [for a brief period] exercises dominion through political powers who accept her teaching of imposing religious dogma by the state. Then, we will know that the close of probation is at hand, for this will be "a *sign* to us that the limit of God's forbearance is reached ... and that the angel of mercy is about to take her flight, never to return." *Testimonies*, vol. 5, 45 1.

**Thus the present ferment among the nations caused by these two powers being at war with each other, and with the power of Communism waning, is a sign to Bible students that we are nearing the concluding phases of the great controversy, and that probation's closing hours are not far away.**

"When these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh." Luke 21:28.

Commenting [in the *New Commentary on the Book of Daniel*] upon Daniel 11:45, George McCready Price, the dean of Adventist authors, says: "**Since all the rest of the language here used employs the highly symbolic terms of Oriental life, it seems to me unreasonable to try to find a literal or geographical meaning for the locality here specified, between the sea and the glorious holy mountain.** . . . The evident meaning of the whole statement is that this power takes a strongly strategic position for a direct attack upon the Holy City-the latter, of course, meaning the true church of Christ in the last hours of time. One more move on its part, and the church would supposedly be overwhelmed . . . but . . . the King of kings intervenes at the critical moment, and the trusting followers of Jesus are gloriously delivered." *The Greatest of the Prophets*, 318-319.

When this grand prophecy is read as a love message from the Omnipotent Lord Jesus to His church, it throbs with deep spiritual meaning. Not only does it enable one to understand clearly what is transpiring now among the nations, but by it one can now

know future moves of the king of the north until he has the power to persecute God's people. And then, so God assures us through this prophecy, He will reveal His almighty power in our behalf and thus prove that He never leaves nor forsakes His people. In that knowledge let us go forward knowing that no matter how dark and forbidding the way may become it will be illumined by the glory of His Presence. "And at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the Book" [Daniel 12: 1