



LEGACY INSTITUTE

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Dear Friends and Fellow Laborers,

21 December 2011

January first will begin a new Roman year. This coming year will bring us even closer to the prophetic time the Bible calls “The Day of the Lord.” Things are speeding up as we draw closer and closer to the end.

We all find Bible prophecy difficult to understand. That is because the Bible gives us only the outline of future events, much of it in symbolism. The Bible also uses something called *dual fulfillment*, meaning that sometimes there is a former and a latter fulfillment of a single prophetic event.



Model of 2nd Temple in the Israel Museum, Jerusalem.¹

For instance, the prophecy about the *Abomination of Desolation* described in Daniel was fulfilled by the Syrian King Antiochus Epiphanes in 167 B.C. He stopped the daily sacrifice at the Temple in Jerusalem, polluted the Temple precinct with pig’s blood, and set up a statue of Jupiter (Zeus) Olympus in front of the Holy Place. Yet 200 years later, Jesus said that we are to look for this same prophecy being fulfilled again to mark the beginning of the Great Tribulation and as a sign of His eminent return.

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:) Then let them which be in Judaea flee into the mountains: Let him which is on the housetop not come down to take any thing out of his house: Neither let him which is in the field return back to take his clothes.



Coin struck by Antiochus IV Epiphanes. Reverse shows himself seated on throne as Zeus Olympias Holding Nike (Victory)²

¹ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Second_Temple.jpg

² http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/ea/Antiochus_IV_Epiphanes_Morkholm_14.jpg

*And woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck in those days! But pray ye that your flight be not in the winter, neither on the sabbath day: For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved: but for the elect's sake those days shall be shortened.*³ **Matthew 24:15-22**

Here we find two fulfillments of the same prophecy proclaimed by Daniel in chapters 11 and 12. It happened once in 167 B.C. 200 years later, Jesus said look for it to happen again. So we have two witnesses, Daniel and Jesus Himself, giving testimony that this is going to happen. And it will.

Some of the most cryptic and frightening prophecies in the Bible are the ones talking about the rise of a terrible Beast that emerges upon the earth just before the return of Jesus. Actually, the prophecies about a coming Beast power and the prophecy of the Abomination that Makes Desolate are interrelated.

In this letter, I want to discuss events occurring in Europe right now, and do so in the light of Bible prophecy about an end-time, world-ruling power. Let's look at several important prophecies:

*And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast. 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? And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months. 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. And all that 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. If any man have an ear, let him hear. **Revelation 13:1-9***

The end-time ruler of this beastly system will receive power from Satan to rule for three-and-a-half (3 ½) years. He will wield great military power and authority. I suspect the final representation of this Beast will be in the form of a human leader (*horn*) that will blaspheme God (*claim the prerogatives of God*) and make war with the Saints whose names are written in the Book of Life. He will also have power over most

³ All Bible quotations from the KJV unless otherwise noted.

nations—if not all nations of the earth. He will be worshipped and assume the prerogatives of deity. He will eventually go to Jerusalem and sit in the Temple as a false Messiah.

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

These events of the final days are already being set up.

In reviewing Daniel's prophecy about the Abomination that Makes Desolate, we also see the rise of a king of the South and a king of the North that precedes the desecration of the Temple⁴. In the time of Antiochus Epiphanes, it was Antiochus himself who was the king of the North. He ruled what was known as the Seleucid Empire, which included Babylon, from his capital in Syria. Ptolemy was the king of Egypt at the time and he was the king of the South. Both Antiochus and Ptolemy had inherited their ancestors' share of Alexander's empire that was divided into four parts after Alexander's death⁵. Daniel 11 describes their endless rivalry back and forth with the Holy Land in the middle.

Antiochus marched south with a great army and attacked Egypt. He was able to drive the Egyptian army all the way back to the gates of Alexandria, Ptolemy's capital. Then Rome intervened. A Roman ambassador residing in Alexandria, named Gaius Popillius, asked for a meeting with King Antiochus. In the meeting, Ambassador Gaius gave the king a tablet from the Roman Senate instructing him to withdraw. King Antiochus asked for time to consider. That was when the Roman ambassador used his staff to draw a circle in the sand around the king. Gaius told him that he was required to give his answer before he crossed that line. (This is where we get the phrase "drawing a line in the sand.") The king withdrew to avoid a war with Rome.

However, Antiochus was extremely angry to have been thwarted in his plans to conquer Egypt. On his way back to Syria, he sent his soldiers to plunder the Temple gold. Thousands of Jews were killed and the daily sacrifice was stopped. Antiochus became obsessed with forcibly Hellenizing the Jews. He then polluted the Temple by sacrificing pigs and other unclean animals on the Altar of Sacrifice and splashing pig's blood all over the Temple precinct. He also erected a statue of Zeus Olympus at the altar and forced the Jews to sacrifice to the pagan idol. Many Jews refused and were butchered. Others gave in.

⁴ Daniel 11

⁵ Daniel 11:4

Eventually, a priestly family called the Macabees rose up and led a revolt that overthrew the yoke of the Seleucids and cleansed the Temple⁶.

What is not commonly understood is that Antiochus Epiphanes, the king of the North, considered himself the human incarnation of Jupiter or Zeus—the king of the gods. He even had coins struck depicting himself on a throne as Zeus holding Nike (Victory) in his hand. He took the ruling name Epiphanes, which in Greek means “god manifest.” That title has much the same meaning as Emmanuel—the title pronounced to Joseph by the angelic messenger for the soon to be born Jesus the Messiah⁷.

The idol Antiochus set up in the Temple was a depiction of Zeus on the throne of the universe. Since Antiochus considered himself to be the human incarnation of Zeus, he was, in effect, creating the cult worship of himself as king of the gods⁸. This is not as unusual as one might think. Historically, Egyptian Pharaohs and Roman Emperors were deified as gods on earth. During the first century, King Herod Agrippa of Judea was severely punished with death by God for assuming godly prerogatives⁹.

Antiochus had grown up in Rome and became an ardent worshipper of Zeus Olympus. The next “King of the North” will assume the role of “God on Earth,” just as his precursor did over 2100 years ago. He will do so in the same location (the Temple in Jerusalem) as a false Messiah, claiming the role of Christ as King of Kings. He will be worshipped as a god by the whole world—save the true Saints.



Statue of Zeus Olympus seated on throne holding Nike (Victory). Now located at the Hermitage in St. Petersburg, Russia.¹⁰

The end-time king of the South and king of the North are already rising on the world scene and setting the stage for the coming of the Man of Sin—the False Messiah—the last incarnation, or “horn,” of the Beast of Revelation 13. The King of the South will emerge from a confederation of Arab states centered in Egypt. The King of the North will again come from the north of Jerusalem. He will emerge from a resurrection of the same Roman Empire that historically had absorbed Syria. These two great

⁶ The commemoration of this Temple rededication is celebrated today during the Jewish festival of Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights.

⁷ Matt 1:23

⁸ Refer to 2 Th 2:4

⁹ Acts 12:21-23

¹⁰ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Zeus_Hermitage_St._Petersburg_20021009.jpg

political/economic empires will eventually clash over control of the city of Jerusalem and the land promised to Abraham and his covenant descendants.



Side view of the Crown of Charlemagne.¹¹



Holy Roman Emperor Charlemagne, father of both Germany and France, located in the German National Museum, Nürnberg.

Look at what is going on in Europe today. Chancellor Merkel of Germany and President Sarkozy of France are calling for modification of the treaty that created the European Union in order to save the Euro and move forward toward economic, and eventually, political unification. In order to achieve this goal, EU members will have to give up sovereignty to a supranational European governing body that will govern the finances of all 27 member nations. 26 have agreed. Only Britain refuses to join in this move.

What is interesting to me is that the Frankish kingdom of Charlemagne, the first Holy Roman Emperor, was made up of much of what is now known as France and Germany. In fact, both claim him as the founder of their nations. The Germans call him Karl Der Grosse and the French call him Charlemagne. Charlemagne was crowned Holy Roman Emperor (*Imperator Augustus*) by Pope Leo III on December 25 in the year 800 A.D. He united Europe (most of which makes up the EU today) primarily by the sword.

It is interesting that France and Germany, the core of Charlemagne's Holy Roman Empire, are now the strongest economies in Europe and together are leading the charge for financial and political controls over all member states.

*French President Nicolas Sarkozy and German Chancellor Angela Merkel held a joint address on Monday to call for major changes to the European Union treaty in response to the sovereign debt crisis threatening the eurozone. Speaking in Paris, Sarkozy and Merkel called for a series of new rules including tighter limits on member states' national debt.*¹²

¹¹ http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/f0/Karl_der_gro%C3%9Fe.jpg

¹² www.democracynow.org/2011/12/6/headlines

Some consider this pressure by France and Germany as nothing less than a thinly veiled power grab to force wayward members, such as Greece and Italy, into line. Others see a more far-reaching goal.

*Efforts by European leaders to shoe-horn a range of diverse countries into a rigid financial cage are doomed to fail. But that's all part of a long-term plan for a global super-currency which can only bring more hardship to ordinary working people.*¹³

It would appear that Chancellor Merkel and President Sarkozy are both in favor of sovereign nations giving up their financial sovereignty to a supranational controlling entity. This is just the beginning of an international supranational power.

Even the Pope is calling for a world supranational regulating body to make financial decisions for the entire world.

A Vatican document called for the gradual creation of a world political authority with broad powers to regulate financial markets and rein in the "inequalities and distortions of capitalist development."

*The document said the current global financial crisis has revealed "selfishness, collective greed and the hoarding of goods on a great scale." A supranational authority, it said, is needed to place the common good at the center of international economic activity*¹⁴ .

What does the Bible say about the end-time rule of the Beast when it comes to financial regulation?

*And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name. Here is wisdom. Let him that hath understanding count the number of the beast: for it is the number of a man; and his number is Six hundred threescore and six. **Revelation 13:16-18***

Unless a nation or people give up their sovereignty to this supranational economic regulatory power, they will not be able to conduct commercial transactions. The world will become slaves to this Beast system that the Bible also calls Babylon the Great. When it finally falls apart because of the intervention of the returning REAL Christ, the merchants of the earth, and those who have amassed great riches by victimizing the poor and blind of the world, will weep and lament its destruction.

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

¹³ Russia Today, Dec 9, 2011, The Euro: That Procrustean Bed...

¹⁴ Catholic News Service, Vatican document calls for global authority to regulate markets, John Thavis, life.nationalpost.com/2011/10/24

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.

Revelation 18:1-5

*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. And the merchants of the earth shall weep and mourn over her; for no man buyeth their merchandise any more: **Revelation 18:9-11***

Babylon has always been here since its founding by Nimrod, who was worshipped as a god under many names (such as Baal, Osirus, Molech, Marduk, and even Zeus). The image of Daniel 2 shows us that this evil system is a counterfeit of the real Kingdom of God, until it is ultimately smashed to dust by the Stone from Heaven (Jesus Christ) soon after His return.

The Beast system will be all about the control of finances and world commerce. Most wars are fought over control of commerce. For example, the Punic Wars between Rome and Carthage were fought over control of trade in the Mediterranean and beyond.

Prophecy tells us the WHAT. It is sketchy on the details of the WHEN and HOW. We must continuously watch world news and reread and study the prophecies given to us in order to see and understand the importance of what is taking place in the world around us. The strongest economy in Europe is Germany. They have the largest and strongest banks. Chancellor Merkel is gaining in power as a voice to be reckoned with. A recent article in a U.K. news service took exception to German claims.

Europe speaks German now! Controversial claim from Merkel ally that EU countries all follow Berlin's lead - and Britain should fall into line¹⁵

Germany is flexing its financial muscles. Germans are fiscal conservatives who are not at all interested in bailing out irresponsible EU neighbors who lack work ethic and fiscal good sense. They will help the countries that make up the weak underbelly of Europe only if the Germans can guarantee fiscal responsibility. This can only be achieved with a supranational power wielding control over the monetary affairs of such countries as

¹⁵ www.dailymail.co.uk, Nov 16, 3011, James Chapman, Europe speaks German.

Greece, Italy, and Portugal. That is why we are now seeing EU technocrats replacing elected finance officials in each of these debtor nations.

Forbes magazine published a recent article (12/12/2011) entitled, "The 'United States of Europe' Beckons," by Clem Chambers, CEO of Europe's leading financial markets Website ADVFN.com. He writes:

It has long been said that the euro was just a step towards a federal Europe. When the European currency went into crisis, as it would be assured to do so, it would force closer fiscal integration—effectively meaning closer political union.

Analyst Chambers continues:

Closer union appears to be coming true. The euro, in its old form, has fallen into crisis and the price European countries have to pay is a large loss of sovereignty.

The balance of power is rapidly shifting in Europe. The political unity symbolized by the crown of Charlemagne is no longer a pipe dream of the ideologue. Soon, someone new will be wearing that crown symbolic of a resurrected King of the North.

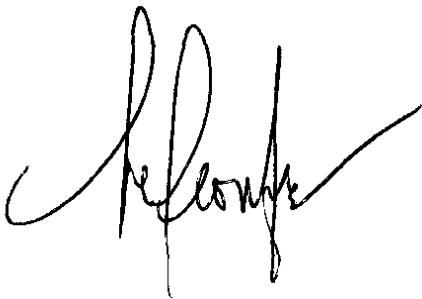
Finally, Chambers sums it up:

What is set to happen is that the European super state will hold the cheque book of euro member countries; or at least be able to snap it shut should any one country wish to run away with its local budget.

Money is power and once ultimate budget power is gone, political power will subsequently be drawn into the federal centre. This illuminates the character of the current crisis; it is purely political. Come what may, economic ramifications of the crisis are secondary to those of the political necessities.

Stay on your spiritual toes. Prophecy is being fulfilled. These events will be affecting you and your families much sooner than you think.

Yours in the service of Jesus Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Leon Sexton', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

T. Leon Sexton

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