

WHERE IS EUROPE HEADING?

DAVID McMILLAN



Tower of Babel, by Breugel (c. 1563)



European Parliament, Strasbourg, France

Front and Back Covers: The design of the European Parliament building in Strasbourg, France is based on the famous painting of the Tower of Babel by Pieter Brueghel the Elder, the Flemish Northern Renaissance painter. The European Union once declared its mission and purpose using the motto, ‘Europe many tongues one voice;’ which is a reversal of what God did at the Tower of Babel (Genesis 11:7-8).

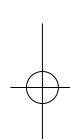
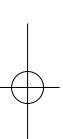
At the time of the second European elections in 1984 a postage stamp was released to commemorate the occasion depicting a scarlet woman riding a beast as spoken of in Revelation 17. Also, in 2002 Greece started to use the image of the women riding the beast on its two Euro coin. In Greek mythology the woman is a Phoenician princess known as Europa.

These are all very significant facts. The European Union itself and some of its member states have for some time been using imagery that has a clear connection with Bible prophecy. The Lord in His providence has overruled in these images and pictures being used to bring great prophetic truth to the attention of the world in this way.

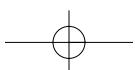
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By
David McMillan

Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony
1 Donald Way
Chelmsford
Essex
CM2 9JB
Website: WWW.SGAT.ORG

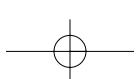
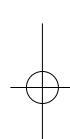
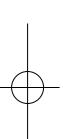


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Foreword

The contents of this booklet first appeared in the Watching and Waiting magazine as a four-part series during the year 2020. The articles were well received, and readers found them to be helpful in their understanding of this very important question. As a result of this encouragement, and because of the great relevance of European events in the understanding of the future fulfilment of prophecy, it was felt that the articles should be printed together in a booklet for wider circulation.

Apart from a slight change to the description given to each section, the substance of the articles appears in this booklet exactly as they were printed in Watching and Waiting. An appendix has also been added at the end of the booklet on the theme of, Why true Christians will refuse to take the mark of the Beast?

It is always our desire to encourage further study of what the Bible has to say about God's prophetic plan. Therefore, for those who would like to engage in deeper study on the subject of Europe's place in prophecy, we would recommend the careful reading of Mr B W Newton's classic work, 'The Prospects of the Ten Kingdoms.' Also, the series of booklets, 'Bible Lands in Bible Light,' will help to open up the very significant part that will be held by the nations around the Mediterranean Sea in future events. All this literature is produced by the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony and copies can be obtained by writing to our Secretary or they can be ordered directly from our website.

This booklet is published and sent forth with the prayer that it will be of help to the Lord's people in their understanding of the prophetic Scriptures relating to the Roman Earth, so that the momentous future events, in that very important region of the earth, will not take them by surprise.

The Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony Council.
January 2021.

Introduction

It seems that everyone has something to say about the future of Europe; but I want you to make no mistake that God also has much to say about what lies ahead for the European Union because this is a major theme in the prophetic Scriptures.

There are some who will want us to believe that we have no way of knowing what will happen in the future before the Saviour comes again. However, that is not the teaching of the Word of God; because just as the Bible clearly foretold the details of Christ's first coming, it also foretells the details of His second coming. In fact, the Bible foretells the second coming of Christ in even greater detail than His first coming.

Peter stated, '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' (2 Peter 1:19). It is clear that God, by His Word, has given us a light to guide us through the events of this dark end-time age and he exhorts us to take heed to these prophecies. In other words, we are not to ignore them and explain them away but rather we are to study them diligently and listen to them carefully.

So let us consider what the Scriptures reveal about the future of Europe. Where is Europe heading? What will current events lead to? What are we to look for in the European Union in future days? These are not questions where we are left in the dark with regards to the answer. They are subjects upon which God has spoken and upon which much help and light is to be found in the prophecies relating to the end-time.

Chapter 1

Geographically

We want to look in four parts at the question, where is Europe heading? In this chapter we want firstly to think about where Europe is heading – geographically.

The Mediterranean Sea

The Mediterranean Sea is well known today as a holiday destination. It is interesting that the word ‘Mediterranean’ literally means ‘the centre of the earth.’ It is also important to realise that the Mediterranean Sea joins together the three continents of Europe, Asia, and Africa and the reality is that all three will be a part of the Union of nations, now known as the European Union, before the Saviour comes again.

It is especially important to understand that the Mediterranean Sea is the centre of the Biblical earth. In the past all the great events of the Bible took place around its shores. As it was in the past so it will be again in the future because all the great events of the end-time will take place around its shores.

The name Mediterranean is not found in the Word of God but the same Sea is spoken of by other names and titles. In the prophecy of Daniel we are told about the place of the Mediterranean Sea in the events of the end-time: ‘Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea. And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another’ (Daniel 7:2-3). John also speaks about the Mediterranean Sea when he said, ‘And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea’ (Revelation 13:1). So here we have two noted prophetic witnesses, one from the Old Testament and the other from the New Testament, and they both establish that the Mediterranean Sea has a very important part to play in the events that will lead up to the return of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Daniel describes the Mediterranean as ‘the Great Sea’ and in the Old Testament the Great Sea is a name or a title for the Mediterranean. That can be established beyond dispute for us by the Book of Numbers, ‘And as for the western border, ye shall even have the great sea for a border’ (Numbers 34:6). Israel’s western border is ‘the Great Sea’ or what we know today as the Mediterranean Sea

What Daniel saw in his vision of the Mediterranean Sea was four great beasts arising from it; and those four beasts represent the four great Gentile Empires of ‘the Times of the Gentiles’ (Luke 21:24. Those four Empires are: the Babylonian,

the Medo-Persian, the Grecian, and the Roma beasts arising out of the Mediterranean Sea? It is because those four great Gentile kingdoms arose out of the region around the Mediterranean.

The Prophetic and the Roman Earth

The last of those Empires, the Roman Empire, is the most significant because it covered the largest area and its borders extended to every shore of the Mediterranean Sea. So it is important to understand that this is a vital area geographically in the Bible because this is an important area prophetically. It is known to Bible teachers as **the Prophetic Earth** because it is the area where the prophecies of the end-time will be fulfilled. It is also known as **the Roman Earth** because it is the area that was covered and ruled over by the Roman Empire.

Revival of the Roman Empire

In the details relating to the first advent of the Saviour we are told, ‘And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed’ (Luke 2:1). Let me point out that the word ‘world’ that is used in this verse is not kosmos referring to the whole globe. It is the word oikoumene that speaks of the Roman world or the Roman Empire; the part of the earth over which Caesar had jurisdiction. So it is clear that this is a vital area in the study of the Scriptures especially the study of the prophetic Scriptures. It is important to be familiar with this area and its significance and we want you to watch carefully this region of the earth, because this is the region in which the Old Roman Empire will be revived in the form of the European Union. When this Union reaches its final formation all around the Mediterranean Sea, it will be divided up into ten regions (not ten nations). Those ten regions are set forth in the ten toes of Nebuchadnezzar’s image and the ten horns of the fourth beast that Daniel saw in his night vision (Daniel 2:41-42 and Daniel 7:7). This is something that was never fulfilled in the old Roman Empire so it is yet to be fulfilled at a time still future to us. It is also in that region that the events of the end-time will develop and unfold because just as the Roman Empire was on the earth when the Saviour came the first time, so it will be dominating the earth when He comes the second time.

The Future Capital of Europe

The main centres of European government today are in Strasburg and Brussels but that will not be so in the future because there is coming a day when the future capital of the Union will be located in modern-day Iraq. This change of capital for Europe is revealed in Zechariah 5:10-11 where the prophet tells us, ‘Then said I to the angel that talked with me, whither do these bear the ephah? And he said unto me, To build it an house in the land of Shinar: and it shall be established, and set

there upon her own base.' The prophet foretells that the future capital of the Mediterranean Union geographically will be located in Shinar or Babylon. The prophet is here foretelling the removing of the trade centre (trade is represented by the ephah) to this new location in the Middle East. Remember that Daniel tells us that the vessels of the Lord's house were carried to Shinar by the king of Babylon (Daniel 1:2). That leaves us in no doubt that Babylon and Shinar are one and the same place.

The esteemed first Secretary of the SGAT, Mr George H Fromow, often said, 'Babylon is Babylon on the Euphrates, not Rome on the Tiber.' How important it is, in our understanding of these Scriptures and the events of which they speak, to see that they refer to actual Shinar and actual Babylon.

The Name Iraq

It is interesting that the name Iraq was given to that region by the British when they ruled there between 1920 and 1932. The name came from the Scriptures and from an ancient city in that region named Erech. The Book of Genesis, when speaking about the kingdom of Nimrod, tells us, 'And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar' (Genesis 10:10). The name Erech in this verse should be noted carefully because the modern name for Iraq is derived from it.

Bible Events in the Past

As you think of the region of Shinar or Iraq keep in mind that many prominent Bible events took place there in the past. The story of the building of the Tower of Babel took place in Iraq. We are told in Genesis that they built the Tower on 'a plain in the land of Shinar' (Genesis 11:2).

Also, Abraham was born and brought up in Iraq or Babylon. Stephen, in his great sermon recorded in Acts, tells us of Abraham, 'The God of glory appeared unto our father Abraham, when he was in Mesopotamia' (Acts 7:2). Mesopotamia means 'the land between the rivers' (the Biblical rivers of Tigris and Euphrates) and it is another name for that same region. That means that Abraham was an Iraqi or a Babylonian and he was saved in that heathen land – and when the Lord commanded him to 'get out of thy country' (Genesis 12:1), it was Shinar or Iraq that the Lord was commanding him to leave.

In addition, remember that Daniel, as a teenager, was carried to Shinar at the same time as King Jehoiakim and the vessels of the Lord's house. They were all carried to Babylon together by King Nebuchadnezzar. Then some years later Daniel was promoted to the position of Prime Minister of Babylon.

The city of Nineveh which was the ancient capital of the Assyrian Empire was also in this area of the earth. The Bible records that Jonah the Prophet was sent to preach a message of judgment to that great city. That means that the Lord sent Jonah as a missionary to Shinar or Iraq. Just think of the animosity between Israel and Iraq today. Do you think that any Jewish prophet today would want to go and preach to the Iraqis? So you can see why Jonah ran away! And as you think of the story of Jonah remember that God was merciful to Nineveh and it experienced one of the greatest revivals in history as the whole city ‘turned from their evil way’ (Jonah 3:10). In this region that experienced a great spiritual revival there is going to be a great material revival at the time of the end as spoken of in Zechariah 5 and Revelation 18.

Future Events

It is clear that Iraq, as it is now known, has been the scene of many great Bible events in the past. Just as this area has been prominent in God’s purposes in the past so it will be again in the future. The Genesis record of the Tower of Babel tells us, ‘and they left off to build the city’ (Genesis 11:8). The verse suggests that at some time in the future that work would be taken up again and completed. That is what we expect to see as a major part of the future development of the Union of nations.

As you watch for the signs of the end-time approaching you need to watch Iraq. Keep your eyes on that area of the earth, because the rebuilding of Iraq and especially the rebuilding of the city of Babylon will be a clear sign that, ‘the coming of the Lord draweth nigh’ (James 5:8). In a future day, Babylon will be the capital of the European Union.

Chapter 2

Financially

One of the main arguments made for staying in the European Union is commercialism. This argument is made continually, and it highlights the fact that what most people are concerned about is not Scriptural values, but money and markets. Sadly, we live in a very materialistic society and most people are not influenced by what is right before God but what is financially profitable.

In Zechariah 5:6 we are told, ‘And I said, What is it? And he said, This is an ephah that goeth forth. He said moreover, this is their resemblance through all the earth.’ This is a very significant verse and it is found in a key prophetic passage of Scripture because it reveals to us where Europe is heading financially. The prophet here draws our attention to the Ephah, which is very interesting and instructive. The Ephah was the largest measure for dry goods and it reminds us of the marketplace. In the Bible, the Ephah is the symbol of commerce, finance and trade (Leviticus 19:36; Ezekiel 45:10; and Amos 8:5). It speaks of the one who is the merchant and the trader. Why is it used here in this passage by the prophet Zechariah? So as to stress that the main focus, characteristic and priority of Europe in the future will be commercialism and trade. The lesson here is that a day is fast coming upon us (if it is not already here) when commerce will control the nations and especially the nations of the prophetic earth around the Mediterranean Sea. We are also shown that the main centre in all that trade will be Babylon because the final verse of the chapter teaches that the Ephah is going to be carried to ‘the land of Shinar’ (Zechariah 5:11). Therefore, when Babylon is rebuilt it will become the future commercial centre of the European Confederacy of nations.

Trade Agreements

It is very enlightening to learn from this passage that the European nations will not use the mitre or the sceptre or the sword as the Roman Empire did in the past; but they will gain control of the nations through the Ephah; in other words, through trade and trade agreements such as the U.K. is still negotiating with the European Union. Today there are more trade agreements than ever and it does not matter with whom you make the agreement, or how the agreement is made, or how many laws of God are broken in the carrying out of the agreement. If it is done in the name of trade and it helps the economy, then it is seen to be good for the nation.

The Common Market

It is important to notice that the trade about which Zechariah is teaching us will have a great unity to it. In verse 9 of the chapter he tells us to consider the two

women who are carrying the Ephah; here are two groups or two areas that are flying and working together. Think of the east and the west of the Mediterranean Sea; which were the two main divisions in the old Roman Empire (the Latin in the west and the Greek in the east). We learn here that those regions are going to come together and have a united purpose and a united project in the rebuilding of Babylon for trade and commerce.

The prophet also says of the Ephah in verse 6, ‘this is their resemblance through all the earth.’ The earth of which the prophet spoke is primarily the Roman or the Prophetic earth and he is revealing to us that in that region the standard of trade is going to be the same for everyone. In fact, you could describe it as a ‘common market.’ Those two words form one of the old names of the European Union and it is what we have in the European Union today; and that policy will be developed more and more in the future.

It is very significant in this context to point out that the Ephah was measured in multiples of ten. Ezekiel tells us that an Ephah contains the tenth part of an homer and also that ten baths make up an homer (Ezekiel 45:11 and 14). It is important to note that an Ephah and a bath were the same quantity (Ezekiel 45:11). So here is a commercial system that is clearly based on a multiple of tens. How relevant that is in the light of what is happening in Europe today. Consider for a moment the decimal system that was introduced in Britain by European influence in February 1971. Think too of the metric system of weights and measurements that are now used across Europe which all follow the decimal system based on multiples of ten. Europe is seeking to control commerce and establish a common market in the nations under its control; as the prophet says, ‘their resemblance is the same through all the earth.’

In addition to this, remember that in January 2002 the Euro zone was introduced because they wanted all nations in the EU to use the same currency, which is presently the case with nineteen of the twenty eight member states. They also want all the EU countries to trade with the same rules and the same prices. Then on top of all that, they want all member states to have economies which are on the same level, which is very difficult for some countries to achieve.

These things are unfolding before our eyes and they reveal that the European Union wants to have such control over commerce; that it intends the same trade rules to apply throughout the whole of the European region.

Financial Controls

The Bible also reveals that there is a day coming when political powers, especially

in the European Union of nations, will place major controls upon the finances of its citizens and their ability to trade. The central government of the future Union of nations will even go as far as controlling the ability of people to buy and sell. In the Book of the Revelation, the apostle John speaks clearly of this fearful time when he says, ‘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’ (Revelation 13:16-17). These verses are referring to the time of the Anti-Christ during the last three and a half years of this age, and in those days all who live in the European Confederacy of Nations will not be able to trade without the mark of the beast (*See Appendix*). This will be the ultimate control that will be placed upon the finances of the people.

The Mark of the Beast

A very interesting question that is often asked in this context is, what is the mark of the beast? We suggest that it could be a type of electronic chip. If you think of the development in recent years of bank and credit cards that are called chip and pin and the chip contains all your financial details. Also, all new passports have a chip containing the holder’s personal details. It will soon be the case that all your personal and financial details will be held on a chip which then, for security and to avoid identity theft, will be implanted either in a person’s hand or forehead. This, of course, is nothing new. After the tragedy of 9/11 in the USA, chips were developed and parents had them implanted in their children so that they would always know their location. There are also nations like Sweden that have developed chips to replace the use of cash and for people to use in their regular financial transactions. This new project was publicised in the news in early 2018. So we expect something of this nature to be developed so that the Anti-Christ will place such a control on trade that you will not be able to perform even one purchase or sale without it.

How Will People Live?

That raises the relevant question, how will those who are alive and living in the European Union at that time be able to live and get food, if they do not take the mark of the Beast? We get some help in answering that question by thinking of the drought that came upon Israel in the days of Elijah. The drought then lasted for three and a half years. The story is a picture of the final period of this age, the three and a half years of the great tribulation period when the Anti-Christ will exercise his rule of terror (Ahab is a picture of the Anti-Christ). During the drought in Israel, Elijah was so hunted and persecuted by Ahab that he had to go into hiding; and so too will the Christians in the days of the Anti-Christ. This meant that Elijah could not buy or sell but the Lord provided for him in a miraculous way both at

Cherith and at Zarephath; and the Lord will do the same for His people who will be alive during that awful end-time period.

We are told that during the years of famine in Egypt money failed. That was the first cashless society and because they had no money they could not trade to buy food. However, the Lord met their needs and He will do the same for His people in the days of the Anti-Christ.

Financial Genius

Let me point out that one of the characteristics of the Anti-Christ is that he will be a genius. In Daniel 8:23 the Anti-Christ is described as, ‘understanding dark sentences.’ The meaning of those words is, that which baffles others will be simple to him. The Hebrew word that is here translated ‘dark sentences’ is the same one that is translated ‘hard questions’ in 1 Kings 10:1, where we are told of the Queen of Sheba coming to Solomon to test his wisdom with her hard questions. It is also the word that is used in Judges 14 for Samson’s riddle. The word indicates that the Anti-Christ will have great intellectual ability. Keep in mind how he is described by Ezekiel, ‘Behold, thou art wiser than Daniel; there is no secret that they can hide from thee’ (Ezekiel 28:3). His genius will be one of his outstanding characteristics. His brilliant mind is what will attract others to him and one area in which that brilliance will stand out will be commerce. The Anti-Christ will be a financial genius. Daniel reveals this aspect of his reign when he says, ‘And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand’ (Daniel 8:25). Anti-Christ will sort out the entire financial crisis in the nations around the Mediterranean Sea. All commerce will be under his personal control; no one will be able to trade without his say so (Revelation 13:17). Great riches will be under his control as we are plainly told by Daniel, ‘But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt’ (Daniel 11:43). He will also have great personal wealth because Daniel makes mention of his ‘palace’ (Daniel 11:45). He is one who will live like a king.

The reality is that all the current events in Europe and all the financial turmoil in European countries, the great prominence given to business deals and trade talks, is all preparing the way for the emergence of the Anti-Christ, because one thing that he will do when he arises will be to take total control of and sort out the finances of the nations of the European confederacy of nations.

Chapter 3

Militarily

One of Hitler's purposes in World War Two was to unite Europe under his control and he set out to bring that about by force of arms. Today we give deep thanks that in the providence of God that wicked campaign was opposed and failed.

However, it is very interesting and even strange that just twelve years later, in 1957, another process of European union was formalised but in this process the nations involved willingly and voluntarily gave up their borders, laws and sovereignty.

The Formation of the European Union

It would be profitable to take a moment to ask the question, how has this diplomatic attempt at European union succeeded when war failed? The Bible has the answer to this question in verses such as Revelation 17:17, where we are told, '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.' These words have their final fulfilment in a future day, and they speak of the ten kings that will rule over the European Union in its final formation. However, we are told that, 'God hath put it in their hearts.' This is the reason that many European nations today have now such a desire to be a part of the European Union. This is the reason why many of these countries are now possessed with what can only be called 'European madness' as they freely surrender more and more control to the European government. It is because the Lord has put it in their hearts; it is all under His Sovereign control and is part of His Sovereign purpose.

Former Prime Minister Gordon Brown

In May 2016, during the campaign leading up to the Brexit referendum, the former Labour Prime Minister, Gordon Brown, who was a son of the manse, urged the electorate, especially the Scottish Labour Party supporters, to vote to stay in the EU. In the speech that he made, he was seeking to give an outline of what he believed to be the progress that Europe had made over the decades since the second world war and he said, 'We have beat our swords into plowshares.' Mr Brown was suggesting that we have given up war and now we are working to advance Europe by commerce, business and agricultural trade. The latter is particularly the industry that is suggested by the plowshare.

It is important to make it clear that the words that Mr Brown quoted from the Scriptures that day, which are declared in the Old Testament both by Isaiah and

Micah, do not apply to any part of this present age (Isaiah 2:4 and Micah 4:3). They apply to the future time of the reign of Christ upon the earth.

European Army

However, do not be deceived in any way into thinking because the ‘European Dream,’ as some like to call it, has come this far already, mainly by political and peaceful means, that there will never be a European Army or future European wars or conflicts in which Europe’s military will be involved, because nothing could be further from the truth. The Prophetic Scriptures make it abundantly clear that Europe will again be marked by military might, and many details of some of the battles that will be fought by a union of European troops are clearly set forth in the Bible. Just think of Daniel 11; it is one of the most detailed and difficult chapters in the whole Book of Daniel. The significance of the detail is that it gives us a very full account of what can be described as the wars of the Anti-Christ. It is very interesting and instructive to note, in that chapter, the references that are made to ‘forces.’ Speaking of the Anti-Christ, we are told that he ‘shall assemble a multitude of great forces’ (Daniel 11:10). Here we are given some idea of the vast extent of his arsenal and military might.

‘Shake Kingdoms’

When reading the Bible, it is important to keep in mind that most of the Old Testament characters are either a type of Christ or of Anti-Christ. When you consider many of those who are a picture of Anti-Christ you will see that one of their chief characteristics is that they were men of war. Nimrod ‘was a mighty hunter before the LORD’ (Genesis 10:9). Pharaoh came forth against Israel with all his chariots, horses and his mighty host (Exodus 14:7-9). Ahab died in his chariot when he foolishly went forth to reclaim the territory of Ramoth in Gilead (1 Kings 22:34-35). Many of these men were marked by their military prowess and so will it be with the Anti-Christ, the final leader of the European confederacy of nations. As Arthur Pink says in his book on the Anti-Christ, ‘before his exploits the fame of Alexander and Napoleon will be forgotten. None will be able to stand before him.’ He will conquer every army that stands before him so the cry of the nations at that time will be, ‘Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?’ (Revelation 13:4). In fact, Isaiah makes a staggering statement in reference to the scale of his military conquests because he tells us, ‘Is this the man that made the earth to tremble, that did shake kingdoms’ (Isaiah 14:16). It should not be overlooked in this context that the name by which the Anti-Christ is most referred to in the Book of the Revelation is ‘the Beast.’ At least thirty-one times this title is used of him in contrast to Christ who is ‘the Lamb.’ Literally the name ‘Beast’ means wild beast and it gives us a very clear picture of the blood-thirsty nature of Europe’s future leader.

Wars of Anti-Christ

Often well-meaning Christians state, the Bible has not much to say about the events that will precede the Lord's return but how wrong they are in that assumption. In Daniel 11, we have set out at great length some of the future battles that will rage between those nations that will be found at that time in the eastern division of the European confederacy of nations. Consider carefully the words of verses 40 and 41, '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. He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown.' We are specifically told that these verses refer to the time of the end, when Europe and its infamous leader will have great military might. We are told here of some of the great battles that Anti-Christ will fight and decisively win when he will be attacked both by the nations north and south of Israel. The most significant fact is that those European wars will culminate in the great battle of the ages, the most famous battle of all. That will be the last battle of this age and it will be between the forces of Christ and those of Anti-Christ!

Armageddon

This final battle of the ages is often described, even by Bible teachers, as the battle of Armageddon but, be in no doubt, that title is not Scriptural. It is vital to see that the last battle of this age will not be fought at Armageddon and the Bible nowhere speaks about the battle of Armageddon. We often hear that term used, and the books and films of the secular world have done much to popularise the idea but that is only because they do not know what the Bible teaches. Let us establish the fact clearly. Armageddon is the gathering place of the armies, it is not the location of the final battle. In Biblical history some great battles are recorded that have been fought on the plain of Megiddo, or Armageddon in Northern Israel. For example, it was there that Deborah and Barak defeated the army of Sisera (Judges 5:19). Also, it was during a battle there with Pharaoh-nechoh of Egypt that King Josiah lost his life (2 Kings 23:29). Armageddon has been the scene of many great battles, but it is not the place where the last great battle will be fought. At that time, it will just be the location where the armies assemble. The Book of the Revelation reveals to us, 'For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty ... And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon' (Revelation 16:14,16). These verses teach us what place Armageddon has in the purposes of God at the time of the end and they show us unmistakeably that it is just the gathering place of the armies. It is important in this context to point out that the word 'world' in verse 14 is the word for the Roman

world. That means that the Anti-Christ will gather especially the armies from nations in the area of the old Roman Empire to this great battle.

The Place of the Final Battle

As we consider this future time and the gathering of such a mighty military force in the northern part of Israel, we must ask the question, why are they gathering there and what is their target? The answer is to march south some eighty miles to launch an attack on the City of Jerusalem because that great city will be the theatre of combat where the last great battle of this age will occur. The prophet Zechariah tells us plainly, ‘For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle’ (Zechariah 14:2).

Foreshadowings

Think of all the great military attacks on Jerusalem recorded in the Old Testament Scriptures. We remember that, in the days of Rehoboam, Jerusalem was attacked with a vast united, innumerable army made up of the Egyptians, Lubims, Sukkiims and the Ethiopians (2 Chronicles 12:3-4). Then in the days of Hezekiah, Jerusalem was surrounded by the Assyrians (2 Kings 18:17). These are all a foreshadowing of the last great European military offensive. There is even a great example in secular history, because what Titus did in AD 70, when he marched his Roman legions into Jerusalem and destroyed it, is also a foreshadowing of what the Anti-Christ will do just before the Saviour comes again.

Psalm 83

It is at that time that Psalm 83:4 will be fulfilled, ‘They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance.’ This will be the evil desire and purpose of the Anti-Christ and his armed forces when they march upon Jerusalem. Just like Hitler and many others before him, Anti-Christ will want to exterminate Israel from the earth.

Revelation 19

The same event is spoken of in Revelation 19, where we are told, ‘And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against Him that sat on the horse, and against His army’ (Revelation 19:19). It is fearful to note that the Anti-Christ is, like Pharaoh in Egypt, so defiant that not only will he fight against Israel and ‘make war with the saints’ but he will also fight against the Lord Jesus Himself (Daniel 7:21; 8:25).

The First War

It is very significant that the first mention in the Bible of war is in connection with Shinar or Babylon, (modern day Iraq); which has ever been a nation that has been

characterised by war (Genesis 14:1-2). However, not only has Babylon been involved in the first war mentioned in the Bible but so too will the future king of Babylon, the Anti-Christ, be involved in the final battle of this age (Isaiah 14:4). In that first battle in which the king of Babylon fought he did so in union with three other armies of which he was the leader. It will be the same in the final battle; the Anti-Christ will lead a confederacy of armies. If you think back to the Gulf War, the armies of many nations combined in a vast army to fight in Kuwait. Then the same type of military force was brought together again to fight in Afghanistan. There was a confederacy of nations fighting together, and we will see that type of confederacy in war increase and be repeated, especially in the Roman earth, until the last great military confederacy is formed, which will be the European confederacy, and their mission will be to fight against Israel (Psalm 83:5).

Divine Intervention

The Israeli army is a formidable force. You only have to think of their victory in June 1967 at what is known as the Six-Day War, but it is not the Israeli military who will defeat the army of Anti-Christ and win the last great battle. It will be the Lord Himself who will scatter this military force at His coming. When Israel came out of Egypt, Moses told them, ‘the LORD shall fight for you’ (Exodus 14:14), and that is exactly what the Lord will do for Israel at the end of the age. The prophet Zechariah, speaking of that time and of that battle said, ‘Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when He fought in the day of battle’ (Zechariah 14:3). The Lord is coming to fight for Israel and that will be the greatest example of Divine intervention this world will ever have known; and at His coming Anti-Christ and his armies will be destroyed.

The Atomic or Nuclear Bomb

There is a very graphic description given by Zechariah of how the Lord will deal with the final European army, ‘And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth’ (Zechariah 14:12). Many well-meaning Bible teachers have suggested that this is a reference in the Bible to the atomic or nuclear bomb and its effects upon human flesh. This sounds very novel, but it is not what is being spoken of in that verse or any other of the Bible, because the Scriptures teach that the Lord will deal with this army and its leader Himself. This is another example of the importance of comparing Scripture with Scripture. The New Testament gives a very clear understanding of what the prophet was speaking when it says, ‘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’ (2 Thessalonians 2:8). How will the

Lord Jesus judge and destroy His enemies at His coming? He will do it with the brightness of His coming! In the previous chapter, Paul also warned that the Lord is coming, ‘in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ’ (2 Thessalonians 1:8).

What will be the end of the Anti-Christ, the one who with such defiance fought against the Lord? That is a very interesting question. The Bible records that in all history there were two that went to Heaven without dying; they were Enoch and Elijah. The doom of the Antichrist along with the False Prophet is singularly solemn because they both will be cast alive into Hell! (Revelation 19:20).

The Victory

These are fearful events but for the Christian there is no need for fear because men with their great armies and weapons of war will not destroy this world; not even the Anti-Christ with his great military might. God’s purposes will not be thwarted or frustrated even by the most wicked leaders and the most vicious armies. In the Bible, the Lord has told us the end of the story and who the victor will be and this is what it says, ‘And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and He that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He doth judge and make war’ (Revelation 19:11).

Chapter 4

Spiritually

Post-millennialism teaches that as the years go by and the return of Christ approaches, the world is going to get better and better; but that is not the teaching of the Scriptures. We only have to consider what the apostle Paul taught, ‘But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived’ (2 Timothy 3:13). It is very clear, that as the end of the age approaches, society is not going to get better but worse.

The Woman in the Midst of the Ephah

In Zechariah 5:8, we are told that the woman in the midst of the Ephah is described as ‘wickedness.’ Literally, the woman that the prophet saw was one woman. In other words, she stands out and she stands out alone for her wickedness. Therefore, this verse gives you a glimpse of what the character of the end-times will be like; they will be marked by wickedness and especially spiritual wickedness. As we have previously shown, it is important to keep in mind that this passage is revealing future events that will develop in the region of the Roman earth. So, the passage is teaching that spiritual wickedness will particularly characterise Babylon and the European Union. Let there be no doubt in your mind that in the future, Babylon will be an evil city and the European confederacy of nations will be evil.

Stamp to Mark the Second European Union Elections

There are some of you who will remember that to mark the second European elections in 1984, the European Union brought out a stamp that pictured the Scarlet Women riding the Beast. It is quite remarkable that the European Parliament itself would use such a picture, which so clearly and unmistakably identifies Europe with the Beast and Harlot of Revelation 17. We believe that God providentially overruled to bring that image to the attention of the world, to warn it concerning what Europe is, and where it was heading; and yet how few paid any attention.

It is important to understand that the woman spoken of in Zechariah 5 and also in Revelation 17 is the same woman. We see here an example of the unity of the prophetic message in both the Old and New Testament Scriptures. The details of

the woman are given in both passages for emphasis, because she teaches us about a very significant aspect of the events that will precede the Lord's return. These events bring about the great evil religious system that will dominate the Roman earth at that time.

In the Bible, a woman, especially a virgin, is a picture of the Church or a pure religious system. In the Book of the Revelation, the Church is pictured as a bride and a chaste virgin whom John describes as, 'the bride, the Lamb's wife' (Revelation 21:9). Therefore, it is obvious that by contrast the harlot or the evil woman in Scripture is a picture of the false church or false religion.

The Roman Catholic Church

It is vital in considering this evil religious system to see that it includes the Roman Catholic Church, but it is not exclusively Rome. That is a mistake that is often made when considering 'Babylon the Great' (Revelation 17:5). Notice carefully that the Scarlet Woman is described as 'the Mother of Harlots' (Revelation 17:5). The word 'harlots' is in the plural.

So, we are being left in no doubt here that Babylon has several spiritual daughters; in other words, she has spawned a number of evil religious systems. The Church of Rome is a very prominent and powerful daughter of Babylon, but she is not her only daughter. The reality is that every false religion can be traced back to Babylon and the false religion that was practised at the Tower of Babel. That resulted in the Lord scattering the people across the face of the earth, and they took their evil religion with them to every corner of the globe (Genesis 11:8-9).

Syncretism

It is important to understand that Syncretism and Ecumenism are not the same. In fact, Syncretism goes much further than Ecumenism. The aim of the Ecumenical movement is to unite all the Churches of Christendom with the Roman Catholic Church, but Syncretism is seeking to unite Christendom with all the false religions of the world. This evil religious system has already begun to manifest itself in the unholy activities of the World Council of Churches. However, Zechariah and John are warning us, that when this religious system is fully developed, it will have a strong evil influence on the commercial life of Europe at the time of the end.

Controlling Position

There are several vital details that we are told about this wicked woman by both Zechariah and John. For one thing it is revealed that the woman rides the Beast (Revelation 17:3). In other words, for a time this evil religious system will be in a controlling position in Europe. It will especially control the Beast or the Anti-Christ; the one who will be the last great ruler of Europe and the Gentiles.

Hidden Wickedness

Zechariah also draws our attention to the fact that this wickedness is currently hidden for he says, ‘And, behold, there was lifted up a talent of lead: and this is a woman that sitteth in the midst of the ephah’ (Zechariah 5:7). The talent of lead is here lifted up to reveal that the woman is hidden in the Ephah. How relevant and important that fact is, in considering current events. All we ever hear today is about commerce and European trade, and all the arguments that are made by ‘the remain camp’ about staying in Europe are all financial; they relate only to business. On the surface that seems innocent enough and very necessary. However, the Lord wants His people to be aware and to understand that there is a hidden agenda and an unseen influence that is at work in Europe and especially in European Trade and that influence is spiritual wickedness. Therefore, when you hear on the news of all the Trade talks and Trade deals with Europe, remember that God warns in His Word that great wickedness is at work in the agreements that are being signed – a wickedness that will remain hidden and concealed until the Ephah or Commerce is established in the land of Shinar or modern-day Iraq (Zechariah 5:8-11). Only then will this spiritual wickedness be fully manifested.

Wickedness Restrained

Further, notice that this wicked woman is restrained from appearing because Zechariah tells us, ‘And he said, This is wickedness. And he cast it into the midst of the ephah; and he cast the weight of lead upon the mouth thereof’ (Zechariah 5:8). The woman is thrust down and her wicked activities are suppressed. We are made aware, that in order to restrain for now its influence on the Prophetic earth, God has placed a lid or a heavy weight on the activities of this spiritual wickedness. It will develop and mature and at last bear great influence but only in God’s time. The New Testament teaches the same truth when Paul said, ‘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' (2 Thessalonians 2:6-7). Keep in mind as you read these verses that the word 'let' does not mean 'permit,' but 'hinder,' or 'to hold back.' We may ask the question, What is presently happening to spiritual wickedness in the European Union? Paul answers that, because he says it is being hindered or restrained. There is a time for the full and final revealing of wickedness. It will be in God's time, but until then it is being kept in check. However, when God's time comes, spiritual wickedness in its final manifestation will be allowed to unfold and hold sway on the earth. When that happens, this evil religious influence will especially be evident in the commercial activities of Europe.

Sunday Trading

Consider Sunday trading which is so prevalent in our land today and was introduced to Britain by European influence. In addition, many people are now forced to work what is known as 'continental shifts,' which include working on the Lord's Day. As a result of the introduction of European employment and business laws in Britain, God's Day is desecrated and all in the name of creating jobs and helping the economy. This is one clear example of the spiritual wickedness and lawlessness that is already at work in the business life of our nation. The Bible teaches that, 'Righteousness exalteth a nation' (Proverbs 14:34) but sadly, today, governments and society do not stop to ask, Is what we are doing good and right before God? Does it keep His law? But rather they ask, Does it pay or make money? It does not matter to them, if every law of God is broken in the course of all their plans and finance schemes. The all-important thing is that commerce must be advanced. Commerce now is god and it rules the world. This is the outlook that will be more and more prevalent as time goes by, until the full manifestation of spiritual evil is revealed in the final days of the European confederacy of nations.

False Prophet

This false religious system also has a 'False Prophet' (Revelation 19:20) who will work very closely with the Anti-Christ and he will have power to do miracles. We are told in the Scriptures that it will be by the means of these miracles that he 'deceiveth them that dwell on the earth' (Revelation 13:14), so that they will follow the Anti-Christ and accept his evil religious system. One of the most notable of the miracles that the False Prophet will perform is to cause the image of the Beast to come to life and to speak (Revelation 13:15).

Trinity of Evil

The Devil is the master of counterfeit and nowhere is that more widely manifested than in this false religious system. The Devil comes with a counterfeit Bible; from the very garden of Eden he has sought to corrupt the pure Word of God (Genesis 3:1). Satan also has a counterfeit Gospel. Paul strongly warned of another Gospel (Galatians 1:6). It is fearful to think that the Devil has another Christ, the Anti-Christ (1 John 2:18). Then ultimately, he has a counterfeit trinity that is made up of himself, the False Prophet and the Anti-Christ (Revelation 16:13). Let God's people clearly understand that the day is fast approaching, when the full force of all these wicked spiritual influences will be felt all across Europe and beyond.

The Abomination of Desolation

A very significant development of the evil spirituality of the European Union is what the Word of God describes as the 'Abomination of desolation' (Matthew 24:15). The Abomination of desolation is an image of the Beast or the Anti-Christ. The setting up of this image will mark the end of 'the Times of the Gentiles' (Luke 21:24), just as Nebuchadnezzar's image marked the commencement of this key prophetic period (Daniel 3). As you consider the warning that is given about 'the Abomination of desolation,' always remember that the end of Europe spiritually will be the religion and worship of the Anti-Christ.

Worshipping the Image

Daniel 3 is all about worshipping the image and it is a vivid picture of the end-time evil spirituality in Europe. The image in the plain of Dura was probably an image of Nebuchadnezzar himself. If you did not worship that image you were to be put to death in the most fearful manner (Daniel 3:6). So it will be when the European confederacy of nations reaches its final formation. If you do not worship the image of the Anti-Christ you too will be put to death (Revelation 13:15). Here is a very solemn and sobering prospect. Spiritually, Europe is heading towards the kingdom of the Anti-Christ. This is why we are so strongly against Europe because we do not want to have any part in such a wicked religious system.

Conclusion

Let me remind you that in the study of prophecy one grace that is essential is patience, because God is not in a hurry. The Scriptures remind us, 'But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years,

and a thousand years as one day' (2 Peter 3:8). The Lord is not restrained or limited by time. He will fulfil His purposes in His own time, and we need to be patient as we wait on that 'set time' (Psalm 102:13).

The Lord Stopped the Building of Babel

The Book of Genesis reveals that the Lord stopped the building of Babel by one of the greatest acts of Divine intervention that this world has ever known. We are told, 'So the LORD scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth: and they left off to build the city' (Genesis 11:8). The reason the Lord stopped that unprecedented building project was because its time had not yet come. However, when the appointed time in God's purposes does arrive and when He does begin to unfold the prophetic Scriptures, then the events of the time of the end, especially relating to Babylon and Europe, will unfold very swiftly.

'The Wind in Their Wings'

Zechariah makes that abundantly clear for us, 'Then lifted I up mine eyes, and looked, and, behold, there came out two women, and the wind was in their wings; for they had wings like the wings of a stork: and they lifted up the ephah between the earth and the heaven' (Zechariah 5:9). Notice especially the words, 'the wind was in their wings.' The wind that blows against you is a wind of adversity. However, this future European and Babylonian project will have no such winds or obstacles. There will be nothing to hold it up or hold it back.

The lesson is clear; the prophet is showing us in a very graphic manner, that in God's time in the prophetic calendar, the future direction of Europe in all these notable aspects – Geographically, Financially, Militarily and Spiritually – will develop and unfold very swiftly and rapidly. However, the Lord in His great grace and mercy, by all that He has revealed to us in His Word, is preparing us for that time, so that we are not taken by surprise by any of these events.

'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' (2 Peter 1:19).

Appendix

Why True Christians Will Refuse to Take the Mark of the Beast

It needs to be made clear that all those who are truly saved and belong to the Lord and who live during the reign of the Antichrist will refuse to receive the mark of the Beast. There are a number of Scriptural reasons why the true child of God will not want to receive his mark; despite the very serious consequences that will accompany that course of action.

1. The Scriptures

The Bible not only tells us about the past, but it also reveals the future. The first book of the Bible tells us how everything started, whereas the last book of the Bible tells us how everything will end. Peter told us that the Prophetic Scriptures are, ‘a light that shineth in a dark place’ (2 Peter 1:19). The Bible gives us light for the dark days in which we live, and it will also be a light in the wicked days of the end time. One of God’s purposes in telling us about the future is to warn us of events and circumstances that will take place, and to warn us of what the Christian should avoid and not be involved in those days when, ‘iniquity will abound and the love of many will wax cold’ (Matthew 24:12). One very serious issue clearly warned of is the mark of the Beast (Revelation 13:14-18). It is the clear teaching of the Word of God that God’s people should not take this mark, which will be such a prominent aspect of the Antichrist’s programme.

2. Separation

The Christian life is a life of separation. Both personal and ecclesiastical separation are very clearly taught in the Word of God (2 Corinthians 6:14 – 18). It may be that separation has gone out of fashion in the day in which we live, but the Bible’s teaching on the subject has not changed. However, when the city of Babylon is ruling the earth and nearing its final judgment the Lord’s people are especially exhorted to separate from that evil system. The Lord says in the Book of the Revelation, ‘Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues’ (Revelation 18:4). The fact that this call is made reveals that at the time of the end there will be Christians in Babylon, in a place they ought not to be, just like carnal Lot in Sodom. However, it is clear from

this call to separation that the Lord did not want His people to be associated with Babylon or Babylonish practices. Babylon at that time will rule the earth. The mark of the Beast will be a primary policy of the then King of Babylon, who is also known in the Bible as the Beast. Therefore, never will there be more need for separation from all that defiles than there will be at that time.

3. Salvation

The Bible is very clear in stating the truth that those who receive the mark of the Beast cannot experience God's Salvation. The Book of the Revelation leaves you in no doubt that those who take the mark of the Beast will go to a lost eternity (Revelation 14:9-11). This is one reason why the Antichrist cannot be the Pope of Rome. There have been many through the centuries, who have worshipped the popes, who afterwards were truly converted to Christ.

The Apostle John also teaches clearly that all who refused the mark of the Beast, will rise with the redeemed of the Lord, in the first resurrection at the beginning of the thousand-year reign of Christ on the earth (Revelation 20:4)/

4. Sufferings

One of the very clear and solemn warnings in the Bible about the mark of the Beast is that those who receive it will experience great sufferings. Those unprecedented sufferings will be twofold.

(i) Earthly

Those who receive the mark of the Beast will experience great pain and suffering while they are still alive and upon the earth in the form of a grievous bodily affliction. This suffering will come about as a result of the first vial of judgment being poured out by an angel on the kingdom of the Antichrist. John teaches us, 'And the first went, and poured out his vial upon the earth; and there fell a noisome and grievous sore upon the men which had the mark of the beast, and upon them which worshipped his image' (Revelation 16:2).

(ii) Eternal

In addition to earthly sufferings those who receive the mark of the Beast will experience the eternal wrath of God in all its fulness in a lost eternity. John sets out this awful prospect in Revelation 14:9-11. It should be especially noted that

the Apostle declares that they will experience the wrath of God ‘without mixture’ (Revelation 14:10). That plainly indicates that God views the act, of taking the mark of the Beast and worshipping his image, as being a most wicked sin because it receives the greatest eternal punishment possible.

5. Subtlety

At the beginning of time the Devil used great subtlety in the Garden of Eden to deceive Eve to eat the fruit of the tree of knowledge of good and evil (Genesis 3:1). In the last book of the Bible, it is revealed that the Devil will display that same subtlety at the time of the end, when by means of the miracles wrought by the false prophet, he will deceive many to receive the mark of Beast (Revelation 19:20).

The Apostle Paul also warned that the Antichrist will use ‘lying wonders’ and his policies will be characterised by ‘all deceivableness of unrighteousness’ (2 Thessalonians 2:9-10). Many will be deceived by him at that time to receive his mark.

We urge you to heed the clear warning of the Scriptures and not to be among them. There is nothing in this world more important for you than to come to Jesus Christ and receive Him by faith as your Saviour (Acts 16:30-31).

Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony Manifesto

(The following manifesto was drawn up at the commencement of the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony and first published in 1919. It has not been altered in any way during subsequent years).

The conveners of the Sovereign Grace Advent Testimony Meetings desire to make a clear statement of their position in relation to PROPHETIC TRUTH, in the spirit of love and humility, recognising that we only ‘know in part.’

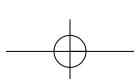
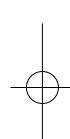
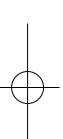
We adhere to the principle of receiving the Word of God, *in its literal sense*, except where obviously figurative, and in so receiving *Prophetic Truth*, emphasise the fact that this enhances, and does not diminish, experimental enjoyment of the Doctrine of Grace, also so learned.

We, therefore, affectionately lay before you the points on which our testimony is, and will be, united, and invite our readers prayerfully to consider these things, in subjection to the Word of God, and in dependence upon God the Holy Spirit.

1. We receive the doctrine of the FREE AND SOVEREIGN GRACE OF GOD, viz:
 - (a) The Co Eternity and Co Equality of the Three Persons in the One Godhead.
 - (b) The Full Verbal Inspiration of the Scriptures.
 - (c) The Incarnation, Sinlessness, Atonement, Resurrection and Ascension of God the Son.
 - (d) The Substitutional Obedience and Death of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - (e) The Election, Redemption, Regeneration, Justification, Imputation of Christ’s Righteousness to, Sanctification, and Final Preservation of all the Saints.
 - (f) The Total Depravity of all Mankind, and Entire Perversity from God of the Natural Will.
 - (g) The Eternal Life of the Righteous, and Eternal Punishment of the Wicked.
2. The NEAR APPROACH of the RETURN of the LORD is our confident HOPE.

3. His RETURN we expect as PRE MILLENNIAL, and following:
 - (a) The Apostasy of Israel and Christendom.
 - (b) The Ten Kingdom Confederacy.
 - (c) The Revival of Babylon and Babylonianism.
 - (d) The Reign of Antichrist.
 - (e) The Great Tribulation.
4. The PURPOSES of the Lord's Coming we believe to include:
 - (a) The Resurrection of all departed Saints, and the Glorification with them of the living Saints.
 - (b) The Destruction of the Antichrist - the Man of Sin the Lawless One.
 - (c) The Conversion and Restoration of Israel.
 - (d) The Gathering Out of His Kingdom of 'All things that offend.'
 - (e) The Reign over the Earth, and Manifestation of the Kingdom in Righteousness Satan being bound and the Earth's groan hushed.
 - (f) The Judgment of the Great White Throne, at the End of the Millennial Kingdom.
 - (g) The Creation of the New Heavens and New Earth after the Millennium.
5. The SIGNS which we Discern of His Near Approach are:
 - (a) The rapidly increasing Apostasy of Christendom, with Lawlessness.
 - (b) Worldwide Testimony of the Gospel, in order to complete the taking out from the Gentiles a People for His Name (Acts 15:14).
 - (c) The Promotion of Federations, Unions, Leagues, and Alliances, both Ecclesiastical, Social, Commercial, Industrial, National, and International APART FROM God, His Christ and His Truth.
 - (d) The Reorganisation of the Roman Empire, leading to the Ten Kingdoms.
 - (e) The Reopening of the East, especially of Palestine, Mesopotamia, and Egypt, with the Restoration of the Jews to Palestine as their 'National Home,' in their continued unbelief.
 - (f) The Fall of Absolute Monarchies, and Spread of Constitutional Government. The Rise of Democracy, with Social and Industrial Unrest.

6. SPIRITUAL APPREHENSION of these things, by the teaching of the Holy Spirit, we deem to be ESSENTIAL to a COMPLETE TESTIMONY OF TRUTH, which will lead to practical separation from worldly principles, policies, and pleasures, and to more loyal devotion to the Lord's service.





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