

THE ANTICHRIST IDENTITY: PART 1

“MAKING SENSE OF THE COMING ANTICHRIST SYSTEM
FROM A HISTORICAL AND 21ST CENTURY PERSPECTIVE”



THE HISTORICAL PROGRESS OF THE ANTICHRIST

The Antichrist Identity Series

www.theantichristidentity.com

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INTRODUCTION

The Antichrist has been historically one of the most controversial subjects within the field of understanding the end times. Generally speaking, those who expect the Antichrist to literally appear in human form believe he will come to power as a world leader through deception and trickery, yet by peace shall destroy many, only to succumb to the superior might of Jesus Christ and the forces of righteousness at final battle of Armageddon. At this time a theocratic government will then be set up on earth led by Jesus Christ.¹

However the prominence of the Antichrist in the bible has not always been apparent. Believers are encouraged to fix their gaze on Jesus Christ and develop the works of the Holy Spirit in their lives. For this reason many have failed to identify that a considerable amount of scriptures also warns against being deceived by false doctrine and the works of devil. Further complexity arises when those who believe in the personhood of an Antichrist make incorrect assumptions and claims based on an over zealous interpretation of scripture or basing their premise on faulty and surface level information.

The very first prophecy of the Bible takes note of this coming world leader, in Genesis 3:15 where there is a direct reference to the “Serpents Seed”. Additional references to him² throughout scripture are “Crooked Serpent”, “The proud man who enlargeth his desires as hell, and is as death, and cannot be satisfied, but gathereth unto him all nations, and heapeth unto him all peoples”, “The Mighty Man”, “The Adversary who shall breaks Israel’s strength and spoil her palaces”, “The head over Many Countries”, “Destroyer of the Gentiles”, “The King of Babylon”, “The one who would come in his own name”, “The Man of Sin”, “The Son of Perdition” etc.²

Interestingly enough, Christianity and Islam are two religions which believe in a return of Jesus Christ, who will come to defeat the Antichrist and set up a physical kingdom of prosperity. Ironically the Judaic religion lends itself to only half of this view believing in the coming Son of David to come and restore the millennial promises made to Israel from the time of Abraham. However Judaic literature does not lend itself to the belief in a physical Antichrist and Judaism messianic literature is split between the orthodox perspective based on the Torah and a mystical and sinister perspective based on the Talmud with significant messianic differences.³

However, the person of the Antichrist has been a topic that has enjoyed success within the film culture.

In 1973 the movie the Omen was released on television and caused a sensation as it was the first movie that had made a significant effort to provide media insight into the biblical view of the last days. That in which a figure known as Antichrist would emerge on the world scene to unite the nations under a world government only to be crushed at the second coming of Christ. The Omen is a 1976 suspense horror film directed by Richard Donner. The film stars Gregory Peck, Lee Remick, David Warner, Harvey Stephens, Billie Whitelaw, Patrick Troughton, Martin Benson, and Leo McKern. It was the first film in The Omen series and was scripted by David Seltzer, who also wrote the novel.

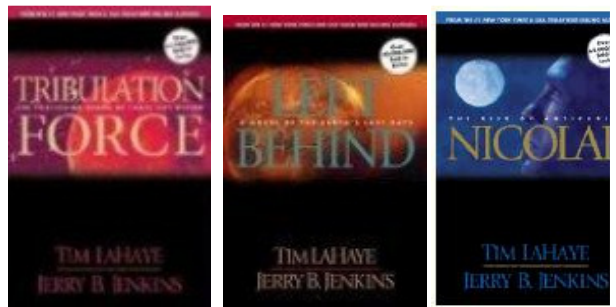


The Omen has gained prestige over time for a number of reasons: its respectability (as a profitable major-studio film with renowned actors), its seriousness (it plays as a contemporary thriller, rather than with the knowing excesses of certain aspects of the horror genre), and the originality of the movie's Jerry Goldsmith score. A remake was released on June 6, 2006, a release date chosen to reinforce the "666" (6/6/06) motif.

The premise of The Omen comes from the end time prophecies of Christianity. The story, set in Fulham, England, tells of the childhood of Damien Thorn, who was switched at birth with the assumed stillborn child of a wealthy American diplomat with only the husband's knowledge, in order to keep it from affecting his wife. Damien's family is unaware that he is actually the offspring of Satan and destined to become the Antichrist. His father, Robert Thorn (named Jeremy Thorn in the original book), eventually begins to realize this with the help of a photographer named Keith Jennings (David Warner), after numerous people connected to Damien die in tragic accidents.

After Damien's first nanny hangs herself at Damien's fifth birthday party, a new nanny, Mrs. Baylock, arrives to tend to him. A priest who knows about Damien begins stalking Robert, and is eventually the one to first point out that Damien is the Antichrist, and that he intends to kill everyone in his way. The priest later dies in a bizarre accident (he is impaled by a church spire hit by lightning), and Katherine Thorn, Damien's mother, suffers a fall after being knocked over a railing by Damien.

Another media release, The left behind series led by Tim La Haye and Jerry Jenkins, has also led to popular releases especially among the Christian community as it was the first serious attempt by Christian producers to provide a drama which more closely mirrored the evangelical and pre-millennial view of the end times.¹



<http://www.leftbehind.com>

The series is a collection of the 16 best-selling novels by Tim LaHaye and Jerry B. Jenkins, dealing with the Christian dispensationalist end times, pre-tribulational, pre-millennial eschatological viewpoint of the end of the world. The primary conflict of the series is the members of the Tribulation Force against the Global Community and its leader Nicolae Carpathia - the Antichrist. Left Behind is also the title of the first book in the series. It is published by Tyndale House, a firm with a history of interest in dispensationalism.

The objective of this report is to firstly delve deep into the understanding of this figure that will become a prominent theme during the run up to the second coming of Christ. Understanding the historical context is an important foundation for moving through this three part series. History is a window of tomorrow and we need to have a clear foundation of understanding the Antichrist debate from its early origins up until the present day. The following sections take a historical insight from the time of Christ up until the 21st century as key events which will be drawn into the discussion later in this document.

The reason for this temporary insight is mainly because many of the views today on the Antichrist are based on wild speculation and conjecture without any deep appreciation for the historical progression of this controversy across the centuries. When the gulf war broke out in 1990, hundreds of books saturated the Christian market from Christian authors regarding Iraq and the possibility that Saddam Hussein was the King of Babylon who would become the Antichrist. Today all of these books are in a dung pile of forgotten memories whilst leaving a further significant dent in the credibility of end time prophecy as a major weapon for understanding the events of today.⁴

One can also remember the speculation regarding Y2K and the year 2000 where again many bible prophecy teachers were responsible for flaming the wild speculation that Archbishop Ushers view of the Sabbath day or last 1000 years of earth would begin at the end of the twentieth century to coincide with the millennial reign of Christ on earth. The year 2000 came and went and none of those teachers have made any public apologies for making such statements which were false.⁵

It is therefore of great relevance that we all take time to appreciate the historical spectrum of the debate.

Thank You



Mel Sanger

Author, *The Antichrist Identity Series*

THE ANTICHRIST IDENTITY PART I: THE HISTORICAL PROGRESSION OF THE ANTICHRIST

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1. EARLY CHURCH FATHERS VIEW OF THE ANTICHRIST



The early Church Fathers or Fathers of the Church are the early and influential theologians and writers in the Christian Church, particularly those of the first five centuries.⁶ They include men such as Eusebius, Origen, Tertullian, Clement, Didache, Ignatious, Justin Martyr, Augustine and Iraenus who have commonly become part of the early father tradition. The Church Fathers were responsible for defining many of the major doctrines taught by mainstream Christianity today. These include doctrines that defined the nature of man, the nature of God, salvation, sin and morality.⁷

However it was clear that during this time there were also instances where some of the early church fathers belief systems transitioned into heresy and so this has created a major debate regarding the level of significance which should be applied to their teaching.⁸ As such, it has been accepted that the teaching of the early Church Fathers cannot be held on the same level as the apostles. Protestant thought emphasizes the principle of "scripture only" as a basis for Christian doctrine, but still in fact relied heavily on the tradition of the Church Fathers in the early stages of the Reformation.⁹ Later Protestant thought challenged this by seeking to make a distinction between the tradition of the Church Fathers and the teachings of earliest Christian communities led by Jesus and the Apostles.

However the views of the Early Church Fathers are still of great importance as they provide the context for understanding the cultural events of their day which shaped their views on specific aspects of Christian beliefs¹⁰, none so much as important as their views on end time prophecy which provides significant context to the historical debate on the Antichrist identity and helps to shape the discussion up until the present day.

The beauty of historical theology is that it makes us more self-conscious and self-critical, more aware of our own presuppositions. It assists us in learning to do theology by showing us how others have done it before us. Finally, it may provide a means of evaluating a particular idea. It shows us how a particular doctrine began, evolved and, importantly for purposes of this report, sometimes deviated from biblical truth. In summary, historical theology attempts to understand the formation of doctrines, their development and change for better or worse.

Not surprisingly, the period of the early Church Fathers is considered the most important in historical theology. This is true for two reasons; First, the early Church Fathers were close to the events of the life of Christ and the apostolic era. Moreover, the second century apologists took the lead in defending Christianity against its first barrage of intellectual criticism.⁷

Although the Fathers of the Church speculated on the Antichrist in various ways, it was clear that there was a variance in interpretation. The quotes that follow illustrate both the different ideas they had about the Antichrist and how different their conception was from the anti-papal idea that arose in later centuries during the reformation period.

In understanding the differences it is clear that some of the early church fathers **believed the Antichrist would be a Jew whilst other felt he would be Syrian or a European Roman. However the testimonies of many of the early church fathers quoted generally expected the Antichrist to rise to power very soon after the fall of pagan Rome during their own time.** Some believe that when Paul wrote to the church at Thessalonica (I & II Thessalonians), a time in which the Caesars ruled, until they were removed they restrained the Antichrist from rising to prominence and exercising his power.¹⁸

Polycarp of Smyrna

"Everyone who does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is an antichrist [1 John 4:2-3, 2 John 7]; whoever does not confess the testimony of the cross is of the devil; and whoever perverts the sayings of the Lord for his own desires, and says that there is neither resurrection nor judgment, such a one is the firstborn of Satan" ¹¹

Jerome

"... We should therefore concur with the traditional interpretation of all the commentators of the Christian Church, that at the end of the world, when the Roman Empire is to be destroyed, there shall be ten kings who will partition the Roman world amongst themselves. Then an insignificant eleventh king will arise, who will overcome three of the ten kings, ..." ¹²

Tertullian

"For the mystery of iniquity doth already work; only he who now hinders must hinder, until he be taken out of the way." What obstacle is there but the Roman state, the falling away of which, by being scattered into ten kingdoms, shall introduce Antichrist upon (its own ruins)? "And then shall be revealed the wicked one, 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" ¹³

Irenaeus

"Moreover [Paul] has also pointed out this which I have shown in many ways: that the temple in Jerusalem was made by the direction of the true God. For the apostle himself, speaking in his own person, distinctly called it the temple of God [2 Thess. 2:4] . . . in which the enemy shall sit, endeavoring to show himself as Christ" ¹⁴

Cyril of Jerusalem

"This aforementioned Antichrist is to come when the times of the Roman Empire shall have been fulfilled, and the end of the world is drawing near. There shall rise up together ten kings of the Romans, reigning in different parts, perhaps, but all reigning at the same time. After these there shall be an eleventh, the Antichrist, who by the evil craft of his magic shall seize upon the Roman power. Of the kings who reigned before him, three shall he humble [Dan. 7:24], and the remaining seven he shall have as subjects under him."

"Having beguiled the Jews by the lying signs and wonders of his magical deceit, until they believe he is the expected Christ, he and then he shall be destroyed by the glorious second coming from heaven of the only-begotten Son of God, our Lord and Savior Jesus, the true Christ, who shall destroy him with the breath of his mouth [2 Thess. 2:8], and deliver him over to the fire of Gehenna" ¹⁵



Hippolytus

*"[W]e find it written regarding Antichrist . . . 'Dan is a lion's whelp, and he shall leap from Bashan' [Deut. 33:22]. But that no one may err by supposing that this is said of the Savior, let him attend carefully to the matter. Dan, he says, is a lion's whelp. And in naming the tribe of Dan, he declared clearly the tribe from which Antichrist is destined to spring. **For as Christ springs from the tribe of Judah, so Antichrist is to spring from the tribe of Dan.** And that the case stands thus, we see also from the words of Jacob: 'Let Dan be a serpent, lying upon the ground, biting the horse's heel' [Gen. 49:17]. What then is meant by the serpent but Antichrist, that deceiver who is mentioned in Genesis [Gen. 3:1], who deceived Eve and supplanted Adam? . . ."*

"[I]t is in reality out of the tribe of Dan, then, that tyrant and king, that dread judge, that son of the devil, is destined to spring and arise" ¹⁶

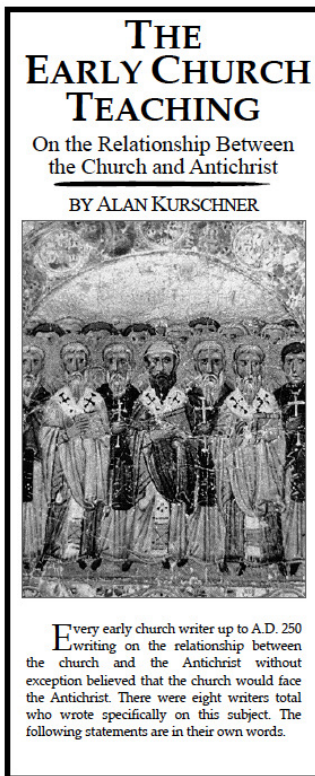
Lactantius

"[A] king shall arise out of Syria, born from an evil spirit, the overthrower and destroyer of the human race, who shall destroy that which is left by the former evil, together with himself. . . . But that king will not only be most disgraceful in himself, but he will also be a prophet of lies, and he will constitute and call himself God, and will order himself to be worshipped as the Son of God, and power will be given to him to do signs and wonders, by the sight of which he may entice men to adore him. He will command fire to come down from heaven and the sun to stand and leave his course, and an image to speak, and these things shall be done at his word. . . . Then he will attempt to destroy the temple of God and persecute the righteous people" ¹⁷

This view leads to a premise that Paul could not speak openly about the restrainer in his letter, because he did not want to invite unnecessary persecution by identifying Rome openly and predicting its demise. Pagan Rome's rule ended in 476 A.D.

Irenaeus, the bishop of Lyons, wrote at length about the Antichrist toward the end of the second century. He was a student of another Church Father called Polycarp, who, in turn, had known the apostle John. In his best-known writing, titled "Against Heresies", Irenaeus said the Antichrist would persecute the Church, but God would use the time of tribulation to purify Christians.

Hippolytus, a leader of the church at Rome who was martyred for his faith, wrote about the Antichrist in the early third century in a document titled "Treatise on Christ and Antichrist". In section 60 of the treatise, he interprets Revelation 12 as a description of the Church being persecuted by the Antichrist for a period of three and a half years.



The concept of the early Church Fathers, concerning the Antichrist, is of great significance. All the Church Fathers except Gregory wrote before the complete breakup of the Roman Empire and before the rise of papal Rome to secular power; thus they did not suspect that the next power to arise after pagan Rome would be the very own church that they had defended against many of the major heresies that had already emanated such as gnosticism, arianism and sabelleniam.¹⁹ This fact permitted them much greater objectivity and honesty in detailing the identifying characteristics of the Antichrist than later assertions as seen in the next section.

It is clear from the beliefs of the Church Fathers that the early Christians did not believe they were in the tribulation, as is claimed by some. They considered the revelation of Antichrist to be entirely future, as well as the appearance of the two witnesses of Revelation 11. They believed the antichrist would defile and rule from the temple in Jerusalem. One must also remember, the Jews had been driven from Jerusalem and the temple had been destroyed in AD. 70, and Roman law at the time forbid them from returning. These Church Fathers expected that Rome would fall and be replaced by the ten kings. The Antichrist would then arise and take over the kingdom, the Jews would be restored back to Jerusalem, and the

Antichrist would rebuild the Temple.²⁰ Only afterward would the Antichrist commit the "abomination of desolation," and then persecute the Church. The early Church Fathers mainly held a literal "futurist" view of Revelation.²¹

2. THE RISE OF GEMATRIA AND THE NERO ANTICHRIST DEBATE

In its first three centuries, the Christian church endured periods of persecution at the hands of Roman authorities. Christians were persecuted by local authorities on an intermittent and ad-hoc basis. In addition, there were several periods of empire-wide persecution which was directed from the seat of government in Rome. This experience, and the associated martyrs and apologists, would have significant historical and theological consequences for the developing faith.

Among other things, persecution sparked the cult of the saints, facilitated the rapid growth and spread of Christianity, prompted defenses and explanations of Christianity (the "apologetics")¹⁰ and, in its aftermath, raised fundamental questions about the nature of the church.

The Roman Empire was generally quite tolerant in its treatment of other religions. The imperial policy was generally one of incorporation - the local gods of a newly conquered area were simply added to the Roman pantheon and often given Roman names. Even the Jews, with their one god, were generally tolerated.

In order to understand the Roman distrust of Christianity, one must understand the Roman view of religion. For the Romans, religion was first and foremost a social activity that promoted unity and loyalty to the state - a religious attitude the Romans called *pietas*, or *piety*. Cicero wrote that if *piety* in the Roman sense were to disappear, social unity and justice would perish along with it.²²

The early Roman writers viewed Christianity not as another kind of *pietas*, *piety*, but as a superstition, "superstition." Pliny the Younger, a Roman governor writing circa 110 AD, called Christianity a "superstition taken to extravagant lengths." Similarly, the Roman historian Tacitus called it "a deadly superstition," and the historian Suetonius called Christians "a class of persons given to a new and mischievous superstition."²³ In this context, the word "superstition" has a slightly different connotation than it has today: for the Romans, it designated something foreign and different - in a negative sense. Religious beliefs were valid only insofar as it could be shown to be old and in line with ancient customs; new and innovative teachings were regarded with distrust.

The first documented case of imperially-supervised persecution of the Christians in the Roman Empire begins with Nero (37-68). In 64 A.D. a great fire broke out in Rome, destroying portions of the city and economically devastating the Roman population. Nero was rumored at the time of having intentionally started the fire himself.²⁴ In his *Annals*, Tacitus states that

*"to get rid of the report, Nero fastened the guilt and inflicted the most exquisite tortures on a class hated for their abominations, called Christians by the populace"*²⁵

By implicating the Christians for this massive act of arson, Nero successfully capitalized on the already-existing public suspicion of this religious sect and, it could be argued, exacerbated the hostilities held toward them throughout the Roman Empire. Forms of execution used by the Romans included burning in the *tunica molesta*,²⁶ systematic murder, crucifixion, and the feeding of Christians to lions and other wild beasts.

*"...a vast multitude, were convicted, not so much of the crime of incendiarism as of hatred of the human race. And in their deaths they were made the subjects of sport; for they were wrapped in the hides of wild beasts and torn to pieces by dogs, or nailed to crosses, or set on fire, and when day declined, were burned to serve for nocturnal lights."*²⁷

The apostles Peter and Paul are said to have been martyred in Rome during this persecution.

With the hype surrounding 6th June 2006 (6/6/6) the History channel ran a documentary on the historical interpretation of “666” where historical experts provided their views on how the Apostle John was possibly referring to the emperor Nero as the antichrist? The Argument from the documentary was based on the fact that during Johns time a numerological science call Gematria was already known as a method to assign numeric values to peoples names. Thus the contextual meaning of “666” to John was reflective of his belief that Nero was the Antichrist. “666” was deemed to be a coded message to reflect this and ensure ones own self survival without directly implicating Nero.



Gematria²⁸ was a system by which hidden truths and meanings are discovered within words. Each letter of an alphabet corresponds to a number. Numerical values of words are totaled up and then these words are said to correspond with other words sharing the same numerical value. **The Greeks and Hebrews** did not have separate symbols, such as 1, 2 and 3, for numbers like we do. Instead, like the **Romans**, they used the letters of their alphabets. In Greek, alpha represents 1 and beta 2 and so on up to iota, which is 10. After that kappa is 20, lambda 30 and so on up to ro, which is 100. Sigma is 200, tau 300 and so on up to omega, which is 800. These values are shown in the table below. (The number 6 was originally the letter digamma which later dropped out of use.) This means that you can take the letters of any word or name, and add them up to get a total value for the word. That value is called the Gematria.

The name **Jesus** (IhsouV in Greek) adds up to 888. The name of Caesar **Nero** in Greek is 666.

Letter	Name	Value	Letter	Name	Value	Letter	Name	Value
α	alpha	1	ι	iota	10	ρ	rho	100
β	beta	2	κ	kappa	20	σ	sigma	200
γ	gamma	3	λ	lamda	30	τ	tau	300
δ	delta	4	μ	mu	40	υ	upsilon	400
ε	epsilon	5	ν	nu	50	φ	phi	500
ζ	zeta	7	ξ	xi	60	χ	chi	600
η	eta	8	ο	omicron	70	ψ	psi	700
θ	theta	9	π	pi	80	ω	omega	800

- The Babylonian king Sargon II, in 8th century BC, is believed to have been the first to use Gematria when building the wall of Khorsabad exactly 16,283 cubits long, because that was the numerical value of his name.
- In Jewish mysticism this is a traditional system of associating numbers with Hebrew letters for the purpose of discovering hidden meanings in words. This is accomplished by systematically associating letters with numbers and then finding other words with similar numbers. These latter words are regarded as comments on the original words. Systems related to the Hebrew implementation of Gematria are still used.

After Nero's suicide in AD 68, there was a widespread belief, especially in the eastern provinces, that he was not dead and somehow would return. And, indeed, at least three false claimants did present themselves as Nero *redivivus* (resurrected). The first, who sang and played the cithara or lyre and whose face was similar to that of the dead emperor, appeared the next year but, after persuading some to recognize him, was captured and executed²⁹

The view that Nero was the Antichrist and that the apostle John was referring to Nero in Revelation 13, is commonly held by a Christian school of thought known as Preterism³⁰. **Preterism is the eschatological teaching that all Bible prophecy is mainly history.** Most of it took place in 70 AD with the destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans. The Tribulation was the persecution of the saints and Nero was the antichrist. At the heart of the doctrine is that prophecy was declared and destined to be fulfilled within the generation of Christ's earthly ministry. All references in the Bible to the "last days" refer to the "last days" of Israel before AD 70, which means that today she has no more relevance than Gibraltar.



Within the school of Preterism there are some fundamental differences. There are "Full Preterists" and "Partial Preterists." Partial Preterists³¹ actually consider much of what Full Preterists teach to be heretical. Partial Preterists do believe in a Second Coming, resurrection of believers (but not in the Rapture), and Judgment Seat of Christ. They do not believe in a literal Millennium, Battle of

Armageddon, literal Antichrist, or a role for national Israel. Prominent Partial Preterists include Gary DeMar, R.C. Sproul, Ken Gentry, and "The Bible Answerman", Hank Hanegraaff.

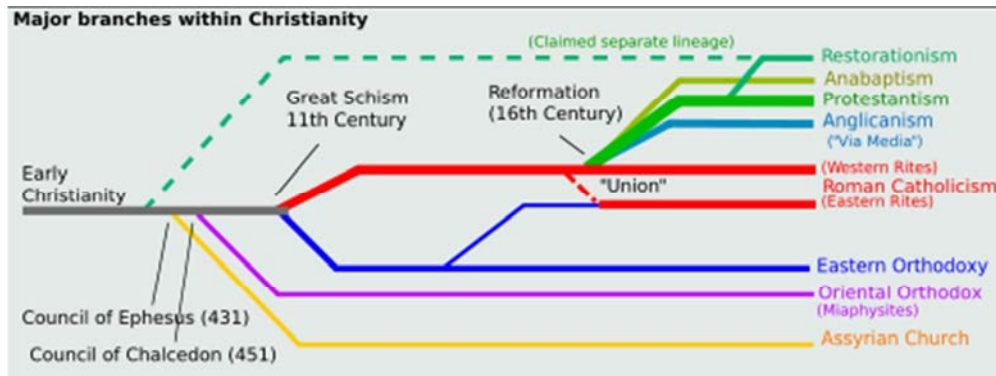
The Preterist school of thought has somewhat suffered significant credibility losses since present historical scholarship depicts the Nero theory, of the number of the beast as having first arisen in Christian history amongst German scholars in the 1830s. **Additionally none of the early Church Fathers ever made reference to Nero as being the Antichrist as they always saw the fulfillment of the Antichrist as being "future" rather than an already historical fact, since the early Church Fathers arose after the time of Nero.** Preterists make reference to a Roman scholar called Commodianus³², who believed that Nero would be raised from the dead in what is known as the tribulation period¹¹⁹ and published a series of excerpts on this matter. However Commodianus was never known to be an early Church Father and much of what he wrote was commonly viewed by the early church as misguided regarding his interpretation of the end times.

Below is a quote from Irenaeus, Bishop of the Church at Lyons. In this excerpt, Irenaeus was speaking unapprovingly about a group of fellow believers who were enthusiastically trying to decipher the name of the Antichrist based on the value the Greek letters using Gematria. Their expectation was quite real, thinking that the end-time scenario — tribulation, Antichrist, second coming — would play out in the near future. Irenaeus' advice was to await the fulfillment of certain prophecies in Revelation, including the fall of the Roman Empire and rise of the ten kings, before they begin to speculate on who the Antichrist might be.

"Moreover, another danger, by no means trifling, shall overtake those who falsely presume that they know the name of Antichrist. For if these men assume one [number], when this [Antichrist] shall come having another, they will be easily led away by him, as supposing him not to be the expected one, who must be guarded against. These men, therefore, ought to learn [what really is the state of the case], and go back to the true number of the name, that they be not reckoned among false prophets. But, knowing the sure number declared by Scripture, that is, six hundred sixty and six, let them await, in the first place, the division of the kingdom into ten; then, in the next place, when these kings are reigning, and beginning to set their affairs in order, and advance their kingdom, [let them learn] to acknowledge that he who shall come claiming the kingdom for himself, and shall terrify those men of whom we have been speaking, having a name containing the aforesaid number, is truly the abomination of desolation. ... It is therefore more certain, and less hazardous, to await the fulfillment of the prophecy, than to be making surmises, and casting about for any names that may present themselves, inasmuch as many names can be found possessing the number mentioned; and the same question will, after all, remain unsolved. ... But he indicates the number of the name now, that when this man comes we may avoid him, being aware who he is: ... But when this Antichrist shall have devastated all things in this world, he will reign for three years and six months, and sit in the temple at Jerusalem; and then the Lord will come from heaven in the clouds, in the glory of the Father, sending this man and those who follow him into the lake of fire; but bringing in for the righteous the times of the kingdom, that is, the rest, the hallowed seventh day; and restoring to Abraham the promised inheritance, in which kingdom the Lord declared, that many coming from the east and from the west should sit down with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob." 33

3. THE REFORMATION PERIOD VIEW OF THE ANTICHRIST

Once we move into the reformation period and the protestant movement split from the main Roman Church the whole view on the Antichrist then takes on a totally different meaning.



It was during the 14th century that there was a significant extension of school of thought from the early Church Fathers on the nature and personhood of the Antichrist.

Of the numerous pre-Reformation sects which dissented from the Roman Catholic Church in Europe during the Middle Ages, the most famous, and the only sect to survive until modern times, is that of the Waldenses, who were also known as Vaudois and by various other names. Their homeland was in the valleys of the Alps in northwestern Italy and adjacent portions of southeastern France, but from these valleys they spread into most if not all the countries of Europe.

The Waldenses³⁴ represent a strain of evangelical belief that can be traced back to the time of Constantine and in 1350 AD they published a historical document proving that the papacy was the Antichrist. The Waldensians, so brutally tormented under Pope Innocent III and many other popes through their own struggle for freedom, became aware of an alarming similarity between their persecution and that prophesied in the bible of an antichrist system that would wage war against the people of God.

Baptist Historian Thomas Armitage opens for us a window into the frightful persecutions initiated by Pope Innocent against the Bible-loving Waldensians:

"Many of them were frozen to death, others were cast from high precipices and dashed to pieces. Some were driven into caverns, and by filling the mouths of their caves with fagots were suffocated. Others were hanged in cold blood, ripped open and disemboweled, pierced with prongs, drowned, racked limb from limb till death relieved them; were stabbed, worried by dogs, burned, or crucified with their heads downward. Fox relates one case in which four hundred mothers who had taken refuge in the Cave of Castelluzzo, some 2,000 feet above the valley, entered by a projecting crag, were smothered with their infants in their arms. And all the time that this gentle blood was flowing, that sanctified beauty known as Innocent III, drank it in like nectar of Paradise. Of the Waldensians and other murdered sheep of Christ, he said: 'They are like Samson's foxes. They appear to be different, but their tails are tied together.' The blood-thirst of the Dominicans earned for them the stigma of 'Domini Canes,' or the 'Lord's Dogs'"³⁵

Following from this document it was not long before other protestant groups that were being significantly persecuted by the Roman Catholic Church empathized and integrated this view into their theological interpretation of the end times. Other protestant factions such as the Hussites, Wycliffites and the Lollards quickly joined the view that the pope was the antichrist and the Roman Catholic Church was the beast of Revelation 13.

Thus the Lutheran Book of Concord states,

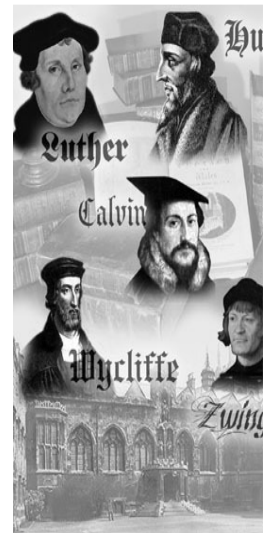
"[T]he pope is the real Antichrist who has raised himself over and set himself against Christ . . . Accordingly, just as we cannot adore the devil himself as our lord or God, so we cannot suffer his apostle, the pope or Antichrist, to govern us as our head or lord" ³⁶

The Presbyterian and Anglican Westminster Confession states,

"There is no other head of the church but the Lord Jesus Christ; nor can the pope of Rome in any sense be the head thereof; but is that Antichrist, that man of sin, and that son of perdition, that exalteth himself in the church against Christ, and all that is called God" (25:6)". ³⁷

This view known as historicism³⁸ became the dominant end time view of the reformation period and the protestant movement and became one of the key components within what became known as post millennial theology.¹

This identification was known and spoken of through the Middle Ages by, among others, Dante Alighieri, John Wycliffe, John Huss, and Savonarola; during the Reformation, by Martin Luther, William Tyndale, John Calvin, Thomas Cranmer, Hugh Latimer, Nicholas Ridley, John Bradford, and John Foxe; in the 17th and 18th centuries by John Bunyan, the translators of the King James Bible, and by the men who published the Westminster and Baptist Confessions of Faith; Sir Isaac Newton, Jonathan Edwards, George Whitefield, John Wesley; and in more recent times, by Charles Spurgeon, Bishop J. C. Ryle and Dr Martyn Lloyd-Jones. A significant influence behind this view was the significant ecclesiastical and state power that the Roman Catholic Church enjoyed during this period across many countries which seemed to many reformers to be a fulfillment of Revelation 17 and a supposed ecclesiastical and political global power hybrid.



The Waldense connection even shares a common strand with the Seventh Day Adventist Movement, one of the most aggressive modern day groups in their attacks on the papacy. Ellen G. White, founder of the Seventh-day Adventist denomination in the 19th century, in a more fanciful account, claims to have found early seventh-day "Sabbath keepers" in the Waldenses :

"In lands beyond the jurisdiction of Rome there existed for many centuries bodies of Christians who remained almost wholly free from papal corruption. The faith which for centuries was held and taught by the Waldensian Christians was in marked contrast to the false doctrines put forth from Rome....Through ages of darkness and apostasy there were Waldenses who denied the supremacy of Rome, who rejected image worship as idolatry, and who kept the true Sabbath...Here, for a thousand years, witnesses for the truth maintained the ancient faith." ³⁹

Some writings of Ellen White appear to be anti-Catholic in tone, ascribing a generally conspiratorial nature to the Catholic Church in preparation for a nefarious eschatological role as the antagonist against God's remnant church (the Seventh Day Adventist Church) and that the pope is the Antichrist. However, after careful study, it appears that Ellen White's writings are referring to the institution of

the papacy - rather than to individual popes. Neither does she or the Seventh-day Adventist Church include the members of the Catholic Church in their teachings about the Antichrist.

Many Protestant reformers held similar beliefs about the Catholic Church and the papacy when they broke away from the Catholic Church during the reformation. Up until about fifty years ago, some Protestant churches continued to preach these beliefs from their pulpits and even today a few continue to do so. It would therefore be uncharitable to ascribe the origin of these beliefs about the Catholic Church and the papacy to the Seventh Day Adventists only. Equally it would be inaccurate to deny that Seventh Day Adventist teaching and especially the writings of Ellen White present views that are hostile to Catholic teaching and to the Catholic Church.



In their defense, Adventists maintain that their views regarding eschatology are anti-papal but not necessarily anti-Catholic. John F. MacArthur is one noted evangelical whose strong messages against Catholicism agree exactly with what Seventh-day Adventists teach. The Seventh-day Adventist Church, however in recent times has made some significant and controversial concessions in its rigid stance to build bridges with the Roman Catholic Church.⁴⁰

From an evangelical perspective, the likes of Dave Hunt have also laid significant charges against the Roman Catholic Church although Hunts premise is that the catholic and papal system is the fulfillment of Mystery Babylon of Revelation 17 rather than fulfillment of the Antichrist in Revelation 13.⁴¹

Hunts premise is a key cornerstone of the evangelical perspective which is somewhat significantly different to the historicist perspective believing that whilst there can be some identification of Roman Catholicism with Mystery Babylon religion, that the Antichrist and Antichrist system is not the Roman Catholic Church but more in reference to the emergence of an actual political confederation that will be led by a political leader rather than a religious leader, although there will be a strong connection with the religious world. This view of thinking is branded as Futurism⁴² although the evidence was that it was simply a reconnection back to the view of the early Church Fathers before

the reformation period. Four of the key individuals who revived this concept over the last two hundred years were:

Edward Irving (1792-1834), a Scottish Presbyterian and forerunner of the Pentecostal and Charismatic movements, translated Lacunza's work from Spanish into English in a book titled *The Coming of Messiah in Glory and Majesty with a Preliminary Discourse*, published in London in 1827 by L.B. Seeley & Sons, which included Irving's own lengthy preface.

Margaret McDonald, a 15 year old Scottish girl, and member of Edward Irving's congregation, had visions in early 1830 that included a Secret Rapture of believers before the appearance of the Antichrist. She informed Irving of her visions by letter. Irving then attended the prophecy conferences that began in Dublin Ireland in 1830 at Powerscourt Castle, where he promoted both Futurism and a Secret Rapture.

John Nelson Darby (1800–1882), a Church of Ireland clergyman, later with the Plymouth Brethren, also promoted Futurism and a secret rapture. Darby attended the series of meetings on Bible Prophecy that began in 1830 at Powerscourt, Ireland, and at these conferences Darby apparently learned about the secret rapture as revealed by vision to Margaret McDonald, and promoted by Edward Irving, and he soon visited Margaret MacDonald at her home in Port Glasgow, Scotland. Darby later visited America several times between 1859 and 1874, where his Futurist theology was readily accepted.

Cyrus Ingerson Scofield (1843-1921), greatly influenced by the writings of J. N. Darby, incorporated Futurism in the notes of his Scofield Reference Bible. First published by Oxford University Press in 1909, one million copies were printed by 1930. The Scofield Bible was instrumental in firmly establishing the Futurist interpretation in the Protestant Bible schools of the United States in the 20th century.

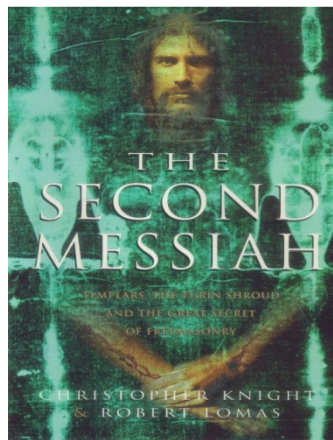
Historicists have laid claim that Edward Irving was influenced by Manuel De Lacunza , a Jesuit from Chile, who wrote a manuscript in Spanish titled *La Venida del Mesías en Gloria y Magestad* ("The Coming of the Messiah in Glory and Majesty"), under the pen name of Juan Josafa [Rabbi] Ben-Ezra around 1791. The claim is that Lacunza was deliberately attempting to take the pressure off the papacy by proposing that the Antichrist was still off in the future a view which was supposedly was then adopted by the early revival movements of the nineteenth century forming the basis today of mainstream evangelical eschatology. Such a view is incorrect in light of the weight of evidence that the belief in an individual Antichrist was already prominent many hundreds of years prior during the era of the early Church Fathers.

4. UNDERSTANDING THE EMERGENCE OF THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE

From the 5th to the 8th centuries, the Merovingian dynasty of kings ruled Europe and, from the Middle Ages until the present day, most of Europe's monarchs have been of Merovingian lineage. The Merovingian bloodline was a Frankish dynasty⁴³ founded by Clovis I that reigned in Gaul and Germany from about 500 to 750. The Merovingian Kings and their supposed Holy Bloodline¹⁰⁵ (and their true progenitor), have a rich and twisted history which is directly connected to the supposed findings of the Templars regarding a connective link between the Christ lineage and European Royalty. This led to their significant claim over the Holy Lands.¹⁰²

The kingdom of Jerusalem had its origins in the First Crusade, when Godfrey of Bouillon took the title *Advocatus Sancti Sepulchri* (Protector of the Holy Sepulcher) in 1099 and was crowned as ruler of Jerusalem in the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem. The following year, his brother Baldwin I was the first to use the title King of Jerusalem and the first to be crowned King in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem itself. The actual title of the early kings of Jerusalem was *Rex Latinitas Ierosolimitanus*, meaning King of the Latins of Jerusalem. They did not pretend to rule over the native Christian, Muslim, or Jewish populations but purely saw their role as symbolic of the will of God.

In the book, "The Second Messiah", authors Christopher Knight and Robert Lomas identify the Merovingian families which conspired with the Merovingian Pope Urban II to recapture the Holy Land:



"The picture that was emerging was of a group of European noble families, descended from the Jewish lines of David and Aaron, who had escaped from Jerusalem shortly before, or possible even just after, the fall of the Temple. They had passed down the knowledge of the artifacts concealed within the Temple to a chosen son...of each family. Some of the families involved were the Counts of Champagne, Lords of Gisors, Lords of Payen, Counts of Fontaine, Counts of Anjou, de Bouillon, St. Clairs of Roslin, Brienne, Joinville, Chaumont, St Clair de Gisor, St Clair de Neg and the Hapsburgs.

By 1095, the members of the Rex Deus families group were almost certainly fully Christianized, yet each of them must have had at least one male member who held the traditional history of their high-born Jewish roots close to his heart. No doubt they saw themselves as 'super-Christians', descendants of the very first Church, and privy to the greatest secret this side of heaven. They were a silent elite — 'the kings of God.....Indeed, the history books record that [Pope Urban II's] leadership marked the papacy's assumption of the leadership of Western Christendom.

If the Rex Deus group did exist, it is easy to see how the First Crusade provided these families with a 'God-given' opportunity to return to their Holy Temple to recover the treasure that was their birthright - and it would be done at exactly the same time that the Jewish writer of the Gospel of John the Divine had predicted! The Rex Deus families were at the forefront of the First, and every Crusade. Medieval scholars have long wondered why it should be that the same families drove all of the Crusades for their entire duration, and now we had a possible answer.

Once the Christian armies had secured Jerusalem, the non-Rex Deus leaders were quickly removed and the families infiltrated the Jerusalem monarchy and the Church, to ensure that they would not be blocked in the holy endeavor of the 'Kings of God' to regain what their ancestors had left for them ...in 1114...[the Rex Deus group] told Baldwin [King of Jerusalem] that they wanted to post a small contingent of knights in Jerusalem to carry out some exploratory digging under the pretext of being...guardians of the highways for pilgrims... Unfortunately, the king was not persuaded... In 1118, Baldwin I died at the age of sixty (presumably of natural causes) and his cousin was rapidly crowned King Baldwin II of Jerusalem. Within weeks, nine French knights were camped on the site of Herod's stables... The world was told their mission was to save the Christian pilgrims from the evil Muslim bandits, but their true mission was to locate and rescue the scrolls and treasures of the Jerusalem Church." ⁴⁶

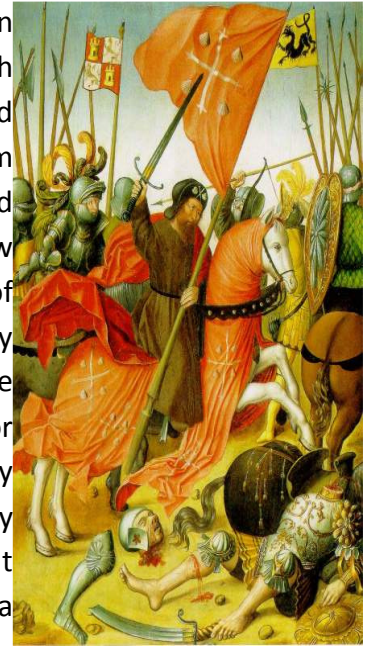
Charlemagne a Merovingian, was King of the Franks, 768 to 814 and established his empire by fighting more than 40 military campaigns in as many years and produced a Christian order throughout most of western Europe. ⁴⁴

From the papal point of view a particular motivation for alliance with the Franks was their need of support against the Byzantine emperors and the patriarchs of Constantinople who claimed, by virtue of descent from Constantine, to be the only true successor to the Roman Caesars (the Western Roman empire having foundered in 476). It is now conveniently forgotten in western Europe until the late eighth century that the popes during this period were merely bishops of Rome, subject to Constantinople, and needed to have their appointments confirmed by its emperor like any other bishops. Constantinople also still controlled Puglia and Sicily in southern Italy.

The growing rivalry between Rome and Constantinople had already led to great attention being paid to what might now seem very small differences in the interpretation of Christian doctrine: Rome contended that the Holy Ghost derived from the God-the-Father and the God-the-Son, whereas Constantinople contended that the Holy Ghost derived primarily from God-the-Father. Other doctrinal differences about the Eucharist and priestly celibacy had also been elevated to crucial distinctions since the pope rejected the decisions of the Council.

The emergence of a Holy Roman Empire⁴⁵ was thus inaugurated in AD 800 by a union between the state (King Charlemagne) and the Roman Catholic Church (the Pope) ruling over Europe, the Christianized world of the time. The Pope confirmed that the King was appointed by God and, thus, should be obeyed in matters of state without question. Charlemagne confirmed that the Pope was the head of the Christ's Church and, thus, should be obeyed in matters of faith without question. For defending the life and papacy of Pope Leo III, Charlemagne was thus proclaimed by the church as the head of the Holy Roman Empire. Such a union between the roman church and roman state was significant, historical and unique.

The Holy Roman Empire was an attempt to revive the Western Roman Empire, whose legal and political structure had deteriorated during the 5th and 6th centuries and had been replaced by independent kingdoms ruled by Germanic nobles. Charlemagne was determined to strengthen his realm and to bring order to Europe. By 800 Charlemagne was the undisputed ruler of Western Europe. His vast realm encompassed what are now France, Switzerland, Belgium, and The Netherlands. It included half of present-day Italy and Germany, and parts of Austria and Spain. By establishing a central government over Western Europe, Charlemagne restored much of the unity of the old Roman Empire and paved the way for the development of modern Europe. The unification of European currency under Charlemagne in 794 was much more successful than modern day efforts. The use of Charlemagne's silver coins spread quickly throughout Europe and led to the resurgence of trade, increase in land value, and a cultural renaissance.



The context for the theocratic nature of Charlemagne's Kingship was provided by his official adoption of the "rex dei gratia" formula as part of his royal title and official document which became part of government decision making. Rex de gratia was based on the model of the Kings of the Old Testament and where the Franks saw themselves as the chosen people of God. Such Kingship involved a religious role. Charlemagne saw himself and was seen by those he ruled as having prime responsibility before God for the Christian people committed to his care. The church in the narrower and strictly ecclesiastical sense was included within the people he governed; and his duty was to defend that church entrusted by God to his protection. Charlemagne thus had two swords: one to keep the church internally clean from heresy, and the other to use against pagan enemies. Like King David, Charlemagne combined the function of royal leadership and priestly teaching in order to guide his community to salvation. The usage of the Davidic theme became more pronounced within conceptual literature during this time period.

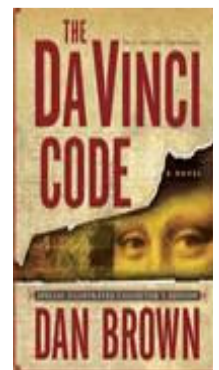
Some bible commentators in their interpretation of the image of the beast in Daniel 2, believe that the legs of iron represented the Roman Empire which would be divided into Eastern and Western. Historically, Emperor Constantine moved the center of his Empire to Byzantium, establishing Constantinople as his seat of power, A. D. 330. This paved the way for the Bishop of Rome to rise to power in the Western Empire. Rome was no longer the headquarters of the Roman Emperor. This ties in with some of the earlier beliefs of the "let" or "restrainer" (II Thessalonians 2:7) being removed (The Roman Emperor/Roman Empire) to allow the Man of Sin, which was then believed to be the Bishop of Rome, to rise to power. An infamous fraudulent document, The Donation of Constantine, was invented centuries later by the Catholic Church to prove the domain, primacy and supreme power of the Bishop of Rome over all Christendom. It alleged that upon Constantine's move East, he placed territories and ultimate power in the hands of the Roman Bishop.

The premise of the fictional but heretical movie, The Da Vinci Code Legend, is actually based on themes presented in the earlier non-fiction book The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail (1982) by Michael Baigent, Richard Leigh, and Henry Lincoln. Both controversial books popularized the legend that Jesus was married to Mary Magdalene, and that the couple had one or more offspring. Further, as the

Legend goes, those descendents immigrated to what is now southern France. Once there, they intermarried with European nobility that would eventually become the lineage of the Merovingian dynasty. Thus, descendents of the Merovingians also carried with them the direct bloodline of Jesus Christ himself. This would include Charlemagne all the way down to major world figures today.⁴⁷



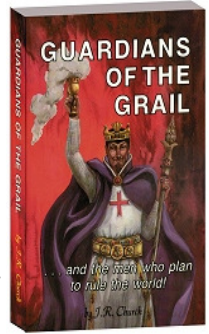
The major source for Baigent, Leigh, and Lincoln's theory, *Les Dossiers Secrets*, which supposedly established a genealogical pedigree between the Merovingians (kings of the Franks) and Jesus, has been largely discredited as a hoax. Still, there are many who hold that the legend/hoax is true despite that document being a fabrication, pointing to other stories to make their case. In *The Da Vinci Code*, the character Sophie Neveu finds out that she is a descendant of the Merovingians, and thus a living descendent of Jesus Christ. The Holy Grail is interpreted as Mary Magdalene herself, who according to the Legend carried the blood of Christ in the form of a child or bloodline of Jesus.⁴⁷



Great emphasis is placed on Neveu being a descendent of the Merovingians because, as such, she is heir to not only the vast historical records documenting this bloodline, but also the physical remains of Mary Magdalene herself i.e. the Holy Grail. Amid fictional subplots involving a secret society called the Priory of Sion, and suppression of knowledge of Christ's living heirs by the Catholic Church, all concepts lifted from the non-fiction book *The Holy Blood and the Holy Grail* are based on the central premise that the Merovingian descendents are also descendents of Jesus Christ.¹⁰²

5. THE EUROPEAN ARISTOCRACY BLOODLINE CONNECTION

Austria is not only the place where Adolf Hitler was born but it is also the seat of the powerful German dynasty Habsburg that reigned as German King and Kaiser of the Holy Roman Empire including Spain, Sicily, Netherlands, Hungary, etc. In the book "The Guardian of the Grail,"⁴⁸ J.R. Church specifies the genealogy of the famous Merovingian Bloodline¹⁰⁵ which is the bloodline of the Kings of Jerusalem known as the Christian protectors of the holy land. It was traced as far back as 1099 A.D. when Charles V de Lorraine (?-1765) married Eleonore-Marie van Habsburg, daughter of Holy Roman Emperor, Ferdinand III.



Consequently the current head of the Habsburgs and descendant until his death several years ago was Otto von Habsburg who held the title "King of Jerusalem" since his birth in April 1922. This title goes back to the first crusades and Knights Templar Godfrey de Bouillon⁴⁹ although not crowned King of Jerusalem, took the title which then become known under his brother as "King of Jerusalem". Otto von Habsburg's name, Otto is not some random choice but referring to what is known as the Ottonian line dynasty (going back to Otto the first, also known as "the great").



Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands also has blood from the Ottonian Line which means a particular stream of merovingian blood runs through her veins. When Otto Von Habsburg dies, his eldest son Karl von Habsburg will take over the title and become the future head of the Habsburg family.

There are other claimants too to the title of "King of Jerusalem, (all of merovingian descent) on the basis of (disputed) inheritance of the title. None of these has, or claims, any power in the area of the former Kingdom. These include:

- Juan Carlos I, current king of Spain

- Louis Alphonse, Duke of Anjou, claimant to the royal throne of France (House of Bourbon legitimist line)
- Victor Emmanuel, Prince of Naples, claimant to the royal throne of Italy (House of Savoy)
- Amedeo, 5th Duke of Aosta, claimant to the royal throne of Italy (House of Savoy-Aosta)
- Infante Carlos, Duke of Calabria, claimant to the royal throne of Two Sicilies (House of Bourbon-Two Sicilies Calabria line)
- Prince Carlo, Duke of Castro, claimant to the royal throne of Two Sicilies (House of Bourbon-Two Sicilies Castro line)
- Charles-Antoine Lamoral, Prince de Ligne de La Trémoille



Karl von Habsburg is president of the Pan Europa Union⁵⁰ in Austria and currently serves as the elected OVP Party representative of Austria to the European Parliament. The Paneuropean Movement is a supranational organisation founded in 1923 by Count Richard Coudenhove-Kalergi whose goal was the unity of Europe. Although the Paneuropean Movement is independent of all political parties, it holds clear and well-defined principles by which it appraises politicians, parties and institutions.

Some of the key objectives of the Paneuropa Union included keeping the Soviet Union out of Europe and creating a Roman Catholic-oriented European Superstate. The Union also believed that Britain should be kept out of Paneuropa since it manages an autonomous empire. Unlike Russia, Turkey belonged to Asia and also should not be included in Paneuropa, according to Kalergi.

The Paneuropean Union is also responsible for the 12 stars on a blue ground as official symbol for Europe, which symbolizes the stars of the virgin Mary. This flag was the basis by which the European Union flag was created.

Otto von Habsburg also founded the European Center of Documentation and Information (CEDI),⁵¹ whose objective was to construct around the Spanish Borbóns a federation of European states united in Christianity and anti-Communism. This sounded very much like a modern resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire over which Charles V had reigned. Like the Spanish empire of old, the envisaged Catholic federation was intended to have large-spectrum antennae in Latin America and the United States. Otto von Habsburg has also been named as a member of the Order of Malta, a member of Opus Dei, and a member of the Mont Pelerin Society (a branch of the Paneuropa Union).⁵² Possibly von Habsburg's most controversial suggestion has been his recipe for dealing with national emergencies. In the April 1978 issue of his conservative publication *Zeitbühne*, he suggested that in certain emergency situations (such as nuclear blackmail or other major acts of terrorism)

“governments should let a strongman take over for a period of nine months, allowing him to suspend laws and ‘take all measure necessary for the maintenance of the life of the population.’”⁵³

Christopher Hollis, in the foreword to von Habsburg's book *The Social Order of Tomorrow*, points out that Otto ‘would like to see Europe resume her essential unity, and in the symbolism of that unity he thinks that the imperial crown of Charlemagne and of the Holy Roman Empire might well have its part to play.’

"Inter-European unity has long been a quest of the Habsburg dynasty. Otto himself often speaks of the similarities between the Holy Roman Empire of the Middle Ages and his view of a coming United States of Europe." ⁵⁴

In this regard, Otto has stressed the importance of religion in the formation of a united Europe. He regards Christianity as Europe's bulwark: *"The cross doesn't need Europe, but Europe needs the cross."* For centuries, the ruling Habsburgs defended the Continent against the expansion of the Turkish Ottoman Empire and Mr. von Habsburg makes it clear that all nations bordering the Mediterranean Sea – including those in North Africa and the Middle East (the Islamic states) – have a place in his broad vision for tomorrow's Europe. In other interviews Otto indeed claimed that as far as he is concerned, Africa starts with the Sahara. The small strip above it should still be included in Europe. Otto is also happy to see that Central and Eastern Europe starts to have more and more influence in the rest of Europe.

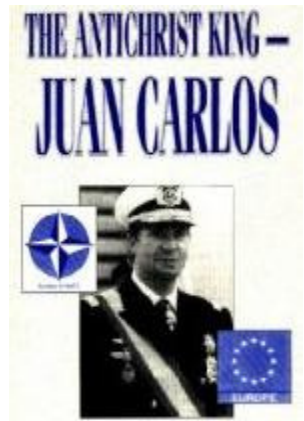
The Hanoverian and Hapsburg descendants rule in Germany over the Bruderheist. They are considered one of the strongest European occult lineages. The British line is just under them, with the royal family. The British family rules the UK branch, of this lineage under the Rothschild's in the occult realm, even though parliament rules the country openly. A descendant of the Hapsburg dynasty also has a generational seat in the Supreme World Council a secret society that meets on a regular basis to discuss finances, direction, policy, etc. and to problem-solve global difficulties.

King Juan Carlos who is also of Merovingian descent was born in Rome, Italy on January 5, 1938 A.D. His full name is, "Juan Carlos Alfonso Victor Maria de Borbon y Borbon". His father's full name was, "Juan Carlos Teresa Silverio Alfonso de Borbon y Borbon". His father was in exile from Spain while Francisco Franco ruled Spain following Franco's overthrow of the Spanish monarchy. Juan Carlos (the son), from the age of ten, was personally trained under Franco's direction, and graduated from all three of Spain's military academies.

The swearing in of Prince Juan Carlos de Borbon as King of Spain in 1975 automatically involved revival of an ancient title applied to Spanish monarchs, "KING OF JERUSALEM", according to the Spanish consul general there. Count de Campo Rey said that the title, hereditary in Spanish royalty since the Middle Ages, "while merely honorific," today, was nevertheless "extremely precious." He said that Catholic Kings of Spain had been recognized by Popes and by Muslim rulers for centuries as "protectors of Catholic Holy Land interests," and that, although Spanish influence was later superseded partially by French, "certain sites and monasteries in the Holy Land" were still under Spanish protection. King Juan Carlos also heads the Spanish wing of Habsburgs known as the "Order of the Golden Fleece".



Charles Taylor in his book "The Antichrist King – Juan Carlos",⁵⁵ provides a significant level of insight into the popular belief that King Juan Carlos of Spain was the coming Antichrist. This view gathered strength especially during 1993 when the historic Middle East Peace conference was signed in Madrid, Spain. Prophecy adherents such as Jack Van Impe stressed the relevance of 1993 as the possible witnessing of a fulfillment of the signing of a peace treaty which would initiate a 7 year tribulation period that would usher in the second coming of Christ in the year 2000.⁵ The relevance of this peace accord being signed in Spain was testament to a view that the Spain was the secret ingredient within the European Confederacy from a prophetic standpoint.



During the 1990s leading up to the end of the century there were many reports which referenced the role of King Juan Carlos and the country of Spain in major contributions to the mediation of the Middle East peace process between Israel and several of Israel's Arab enemies, primarily at the time that the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) was headed by the now deceased Yassir Arafat.

Also in recent times, the European Union appointed a special representative to the Middle East peace process, having the title, "European Union Special Envoy to the Middle East peace process". This EU Special Envoy is Miguel Moratinos. The former Spanish ambassador to Israel has been the European Union Special Envoy for the Middle East process since 1996. Other titles he possesses are "Knight of the Order of Civil Merit" and "Commander of the Order of Isabel the Catholic Queen."

Spain is not only deeply involved in the Middle East peace process directly, but also in several significant "indirect" ways. Dr Javier Solana, previously the Secretary-General of NATO since 1995 is now the High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy and the Secretary-General of both the Council of the European Union (EU) and the Western European Union (WEU). He was also the winner of the International Charlemagne award in 2007.⁵⁶



An excerpt from the Citation of the Board of Directors of the Society for the Conferring of the International Charlemagne Prize of Aachen⁵⁷ In Honour Dr. Javier Solana Madariaga is as follows:

"United Europe therefore cannot afford to do without a community foreign and security policy. For only in the framework of community action can the preservation of common values and basic interests, the independence and the intactness of the European Union be ensured. And only in the framework of common action can Europe do true justice to its responsibility to settle existing imbalances and to foster peace in the world..... Dr. Javier Solana Madariaga has become a beacon of hope for the deepening of the political dimension of Europe, the Euro-Atlantic partnership and the European Union's declared purpose to render a key contribution to world peace by means of community action based on common values and convictions....the Board of Directors of the Society for the Conferring of the International Charlemagne Prize of Aachen also expressly appeals to the member states of the EU to attach even more importance in future to the common foreign and security policy as a central and purpose-endowing component of the house of Europe."⁵⁸

6. THE RISE OF THE MILITARY STRONGMEN

The rise of fascist dictatorships and military regimes in Europe, and especially of a rabidly anti-semitic regime in Germany captured Bible Prophecy's attention during the latter nineteenth century and early half of the twentieth century. The quatrains of Nostradamus seemed to indicate the arrival of three antichrist that would appear on the world scene for which the first two have been interpreted to be Napoleon Bonaparte and Adolf Hitler. Whilst Nostradamus writings simply cannot be taken as inspired it does provide insight into how specific views on the antichrist developed and emerged through the shaping of military and political events during the nineteenth and beginning of the twentieth century.

Napoleon Bonaparte⁵⁹ is interpreted as the first antichrist in Nostradamus' quatrains. With the French army and citizens completely under his control, he used them to fight incessant wars. He did not kill as many people as Hitler, but he did send millions of men to their death without any remorse, in an age where one million people hardly ever lived in a single city, and European countries were composed of only a few million people. Although he served in the French army, he was born in the French captured Corsica. Although his family was poor, they were of noble blood and profited from their status with the French conquerors. Napoleon went to a prestigious military school because of his families connections with the French. He soon became an officer in the artillery branch, and performed brilliantly at the battle of Toulon. His fame rose, and after a one-sided defeat of the Austrians and Italians with a much smaller force, Napoleon was raised to hero status. He then conquered most of Egypt, only to be forced to leave because of the complete destruction of the French fleet by the British. Nonetheless, he was still view as a military genius, and his rise to glory soon ensued.

Whilst the prophetic interpretation of the Holocaust is complex, most prophecy experts during the 1930s cited Gods promise to Abraham Genesis 12:3 teaching that Hitler's anti-semitism sealed his doom. Some popularisers saw Hitler as Antichrist, pointing out that if A is given the value 100, B 101, C 102, and so on, then the name of Hitler adds up to 666. Others found a prophetic forecasts of a US role in the German dictators overthrow. The reference in Ezekiel 38 to "*the merchants of tarshish, with the young lions thereof,*" they argued, meant Great Britain and its present or former colonies, including the United States.

Both Napoleon and Hitler used the Roman Catholic Church to attain most of what they needed: Bonaparte using the church much more and much more thoroughly than the Fuhrer. However, neither one believed in Christianity. Bonaparte was a deist and believed in a higher power, but Hitler was an atheist and he especially hated Christianity and its "Jewish" teachings. However, because the European masses were Catholic, Hitler and Bonaparte were "Catholic" too, at least in appearances and sought strategic alliances with the Roman Catholic Church.

When Napoleon declared himself Emperor of the French in 1804,⁶⁰ he summoned Pope Pius VII to crown him. Pius agreed to do so, but at the penultimate moment, Napoleon took the crown from the pope and placed it on his own head. The symbolic relegation of pope from benefactor to servant was not missed by many. Thereafter, Pius VII's opposition to Napoleon steadily grew. The pontiff refused to annul the marriage of Napoleon to Josephine and his brother Jerome to an American shipowner's

daughter. In February 1808, French troops occupied Rome and in May 1809, Napoleon formally annexed the Papal States to France. Pius responded by excommunicating the emperor and all French troops within Papal territory.

On the night of 5 July 1809, French soldiers broke into the Quirinal Palace and dragged the pope off to France. The pontiff spent the next five years in French captivity, at times spitting defiance at Napoleon, at others under the influence of fever and insomnia, signing humiliating agreements only to refute them later. In 1814 the French returned him to Rome, and for the remaining nine years of his reign Pius became a steadfast reactionary.

After Hitler came to power in January 1933, he made the concordat negotiations with the papacy a priority.⁶¹ The negotiations proceeded over six months with constant shuttle diplomacy between the Vatican and Berlin. Hitler spent more time on this treaty than on any other item of foreign diplomacy during his dictatorship. The negotiations were conducted in secret by Rome's envoy Pacelli, Kaas, and Hitler's deputy chancellor, Franz von Papen, over the heads of German bishops and the faithful. The Catholic Church in Germany had no say in setting the conditions for the promise of favorable treatment of the church in Germany. Hitler was the true victor and the Jews were the treaties first victims. On July 14, 1933, after the initiating of the treaty, the Cabinet minutes record Hitler as saying that the concordat had created an atmosphere of confidence that would be "especially significant in the struggle against international Jewry." He was claiming that the Catholic Church had publicly given its blessing, at home and abroad, to the policies of National Socialism, including its anti-semitic stand. At the same time, under the terms of the concordat, Catholic criticism of acts deemed political by the Nazis, could now be regarded as "foreign interference." The great German Catholic Church, at the insistence of Rome, fell silent.

It was then that Hitler heaped disabilities and humiliations on German Jews from the moment he secured full control of the German State in April 1933. They were purged from every profession, while in 1935, they were deprived of German citizenship and forbidden to marry or have sexual relations with 'racially pure' Germans; nor could they attend German schools or universities. During Reichskristallnacht, an attack by organized mobs on November 7, 1938, hundreds of synagogues went up in flames and seven thousand Jewish shops were gutted. By the end of 1938, over 30,000 Jews were "relocated" to concentration camps.

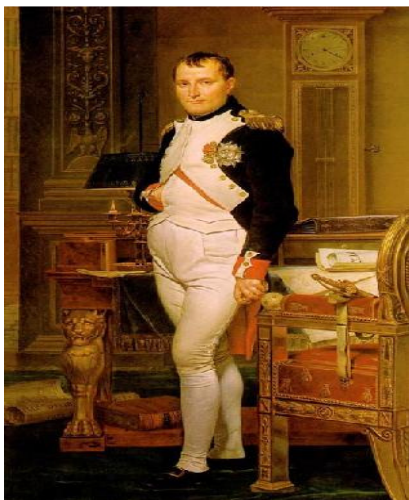
In contrast Napoleon was the only government leader that gave Jews equality when most other nations kept them in bondage ever since the Diaspora. He also abolished the special taxes on Jews in Germany and gave them, for the very first time, civic and political equality. When strong opposition in France manifested itself, Napoleon stood firm in his support of Jewish equality and the re-emergence of a Grand Sanhedrin Assembly. It was on the 23rd of July 1806, when all of these representatives met in Paris, at which time Napoleon stated:

*"My desire is to make Jews equal citizens in France, have a conciliation between their religion and their responsibilities in becoming French, and to answer all the accusations made against them. I want all people living in France to be equal citizens and benefit from our laws."*⁶²

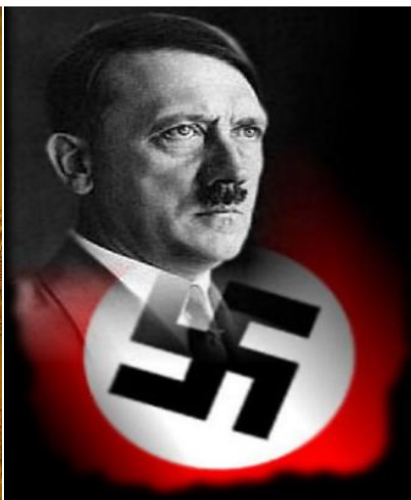
After Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo, the Holy Alliance was convened at the Congress of Vienna. At that time the laws permitting equality, liberty and fraternity were retracted. Prussia retracted the

liberal laws and the worst setback was inflicted upon the Jews of the Papal states. It would almost seem as if Pope Pius VII had taken revenge on the Jewish population for the humiliation he had suffered at the hand of Napoleon. He was not content with their confinement behind the walls of the re-erected ghetto but he obliged the Jews to wear the "Yellow badge" again. In Sardina, the Jews were thrown back into ghettos and not allowed to build synagogues.

The Church had been dramatically affected by Napoleon who had annexed the Papal States to the French Empire in 1808 (The Papal States were lands in Italy directly ruled by the Holy See, stretching back over the centuries). Though tradition held that they came by donation of the Emperor Constantine in the Fourth Century, they can directly be traced to the "Donation of Pepin" (Father of Charlemagne) in 756. Varying in size, but always centered in Rome, the Papal States were ruled directly by the Pope as a temporal sovereign), the chaos of the French Revolution and its Napoleonic aftermath.



Napoleon Bonaparte



Adolf Hitler



Benito Mussolini

The surrender of the Papal States by Pius VII and his virtual incarceration by Napoleon reinforced in the Church the vital need for the pope to maintain his position as a temporal ruler. Without the Papal States, Pius had virtually become a pawn of the Emperor and his spiritual authority compromised. It became clear to the Church at the time what history appeared to teach: without the Papal States, the pope could become merely a pawn of whatever European ruler dominated at any given point. The papacy could be a citizen of no country and subject to the laws of individual rulers. Free exercise of the papal ministry was equated with the freedom guaranteed by being a temporal ruler subject to no other ruler or nation. On the lips of Napoleon the call for the Pope to lay down his temporal sovereignty and to rely on spiritual authority had been blatant code for the enslavement of the papacy to French imperial ambitions. Without his temporal power, Pius VII had come within a whisker of signing away his spiritual authority. If the Pope did not remain a temporal King, then it seemed he could no longer be the Church's chief bishop.

The favored candidate for Antichrist during the development of modern end time prophecy during the early part of the twentieth century, however was not Adolf Hitler, but Benito Mussolini. The fact that Mussolini ruled in Rome and in 1929 signed a concordat with the Pope seemed to fit him for the role of the end time figure who would lead a restored Roman Empire in a tone similar to that of

Charlemagne. Mussolini and the Roman Catholic Church had clashed many times over who should control education as the church sought to ensure its political presence was never again compromised as it had been a hundred years earlier with Napoleon. To ensure that children grew up as good Fascists, Mussolini wanted the state to control education. However, the Roman Catholic Church felt that it should have this power. Both sides worked for a compromise. The attempt to settle this dispute started in 1926 and it took until 1929 for agreements to be signed. These were the Lateran Treaties.⁶³ They covered areas other than education.

The Papal States (the name given to land previously owned by the Roman Catholic Church in Italy) had lost all its land in the 1870 unification of Italy. The Roman Catholic Church received \$60 million in compensation in 1929 and the Church was given 109 acres in Rome to create a new papal state - the Vatican. The pope was allowed a small army, police force, post office and rail station. The pope was also given a country retreat called Castel Gandolfo. The treaty also made the Roman Catholic faith the state religion. The pope appointed his bishops, though they had to receive the government's blessing. Religion had to be taught in both primary and secondary schools and the Roman Catholic Church was given full control of marriage.

When these agreements were signed in 1929, Mussolini's popularity was at its highest. He had got what he wanted - the support from the members of the public who may not have supported the Fascists but who saw the Roman Catholic Church working with the Fascist government, and that by itself created a tacit acceptance of Mussolini's government.

Toronto's Oswald Smith, citing Mussolini's "well knownintention" to revive the Roman Empire, pinpointed him in 1926 as a foreshadowing at least of the coming super-man." Key to this belief was Mussolini's military push into North Africa during World War II which seemed to mirror Daniel 11:40-44 which describes a scenario where North Africa will be overcome by a future leader who will crush a military response from Africa and in doing so will push and extend his military presence across much of the North African continent.

David Pack, a prominent author within The Worldwide Church of God believed that Mussolini in part had fulfilled Daniel 11:40-44

"In 1927, Mussolini determined that he would attack Ethiopia in eight years (1935), at a point 39 years after the defeat. He followed through, and this did occur in 1935! Again, notice verse 40, in its reference to Mussolini's attack: "...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."

"A whirlwind is the equivalent of a tornado, which is a powerful storm that drops out of the sky. Mussolini did, in fact, bring a large air force to attack Ethiopia. Of course, his "chariots" were modern tanks and other armaments. The "many ships" were part of an armada carrying over 100,000 soldiers to the battle. Verse 40 ends with an amazing statement—it describes this great force as "pass[ing] over."

"Just as God foretold, Mussolini withdrew and did not completely finish his attack. This is because God has reserved one final influential and very powerful leader who will arise in Europe and complete this prophecy! We have now arrived at our precise point in time when the verses that follow verse 40 are those that are yet to be fulfilled—while all verses preceding and through verse 40, are already fulfilled and have become established facts of history!"

7. REQUIREMENT FOR A SPIRITUAL MESSIAH

The 20th century has seen the decline of traditional Christian beliefs and the rise of the seemingly all-inclusive, multi-dimensional belief system known loosely as "New Age" spirituality. Helena Blavatsky and Alice Bailey were two of the most well known organizers of this movement in the early part of this century. Blavatsky founded the Theosophical Society⁶⁵ and Bailey, later a president of the Theosophical Society founded the organization known as the Lucis Trust,⁶⁶ which has counted as members men of great influence such as David Rockefeller, Henry Kissinger, Paul Volker and George Schultz.

Blavatsky and Bailey were avid trance-channelers who claimed to receive messages from spirit entities and both recorded many predictions that were made to them regarding the inevitable appearance of "The Lord Maitreya" or "The Christ" on the earth immediately prior to earth's initiation into the utopian "New Age." Because these women engaged in the biblically-forbidden practice of spiritism and because the messages they received were deeply anti-Christian, mocking and ridiculing traditional Christianity, bible-believing Christians have understood that the appearance of the man whom Bailey and Blavatsky predicted was not a reference to the second coming of Jesus Christ, but was in fact a prediction of the future Antichrist.



A man by the name of Benjamin Creme, a self-described disciple of both Blavatsky and Bailey, appears to have taken over where they left off. Through his early studies of their works he became convinced in the reality of the "Ascended Masters," (the supposed inter-dimensional beings who direct humanity's evolution), and claims that in 1959 he was first contacted by them. According to Creme's biography,

"He was told, among other things, that Maitreya, the World Teacher -- the Master of all the Masters -- would return in about 20 years and that he (Creme) would have a role to play in the event if he chose to accept it."⁶⁷

Creme claims that he has been in constant telepathic contact with "Maitreya the Christ" since the early 70s and that Maitreya finally entered civilized society privately in 1977 when he materialized in human form and took up residence in a suburb of London. Since then Creme has travelled the world, giving lectures and appearing on talk shows, to prepare the world for the public emergence of Maitreya. He also claims that a major American television network has agreed to interview Maitreya at a time of Maitreya's choosing. Says Crème,

"Many now expect the return of their awaited Teacher, whether they call him the Christ, Messiah, the fifth Buddha, Krishna, or the Imam Mahdi. Millions now know that the Teacher who fulfills all these expectations is already living among us."⁶⁸

One major aspect of Creme's mission was the formation of Share International Foundation and the publication of its monthly self-titled magazine. Each issue contains a brief synopsis of the emergence of Maitreya on the first two pages and then a brief message that has been trance-channeled through Benjamin Creme from an Ascended Master known simply as "The Master" on page three. The spiritual thrust of Share International is clearly obvious in each issue that is published. Despite this fact, or perhaps because of it, Share International has a long list of prominent, well respected international diplomats, religious leaders and political figures who have had articles published in this magazine.

SHARE —International—

**"In the midst of war,
fear and famine, new hope
is in the world for us all"**

They include articles written by former UN leader Boutros Boutros-Ghali; present leader Kofi Annan; former President of Ireland Mary Robinson; Gro Harlem Brundtland who is director-general of the World Health Organization and former Prime Minister of Norway; the Dalai Lama; and recently even Britain's Prince Charles of Wales.

Even though the average man on the street would most likely dissolve into hysterical laughter upon being presented with the beliefs of Creme and Share International, it is easily shown that this magazine is well-respected and taken seriously by many influential members of the Global Elite. In fact, Share International Foundation is accredited as an official non-governmental organization (NGO) by the United Nations, and the magazine, as stated on the inside cover of each issue, is published by Share International " in association with the Department of Public Information at the United Nations."

Creme and Share International are both intimately connected with a number of New Age groups including the Freemasons (Creme often lectures in Masonic halls), the Tara Center of Hollywood, CA, the Theosophical Society, the Lucis Trust (which maintains the official UN "meditation room"), and World Goodwill,⁶⁹ an organization created by the Lucis Trust and also recognized by the UN as an official NGO. World Goodwill also actively promotes the appearance of "Maitreya the World Teacher" in their literature and on their website.

Maitreya claims to be "The Christ" returned, yet there are many aspects of his character and many of his predictions (as given by Creme) which fall in line with the bible's predictions of the coming Antichrist and the events that will surround the end of the age. For instance, Maitreya predicts many natural disasters and a period of violence and destruction prior to earth's entry into the New Age; he

warns that the worldwide capitalist financial system will be overturned; he predicts that a new world religion will be established under his guidance and will be aided by a future leader of the Catholic Church.

Regarding the current problems between Israel and the Palestinians, Creme has stated that when Maitreya appears he will solve them, saying, *"I believe Maitreya alone has the spiritual authority to point to the solution and achieve its implementation."*⁶⁷ In addition to these facts Creme says that Maitreya may be rejected by intolerant "fundamentalists" (Christians, Muslims and Jews), and "The Master," an unnamed being who also speaks through Creme, warns of people who will reject Maitreya based on "scriptural warnings which they all too readily misinterpret."

Another significant cornerstone of world peace through religion is being promoted through the World Parliament of Religion. There have been several meetings referred to as a Parliament of the World's Religions, most notably the World's Parliament of Religions of 1893,⁷⁰ the first attempt to create a global dialogue of faiths. The event was celebrated by another conference on its centenary in 1993. This led to a new series of conferences under the official title "Parliament of the World's Religions".

In 1993 the Parliament of World Religions convened in Chicago with 8000 people worldwide coming together to celebrate diversity and religious harmony and to explore how religion could address some of the world major social problems. During this event a major document was constructed called "Towards a Global Ethic: An initial Declaration" which would lay the basis of an ethical common understand amongst the world religions and spiritual traditions.

"The Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions seeks to promote interreligious harmony, rather than unity. The problem with seeking unity among religions is the risk of loss of the unique and precious character of each individual religious and spiritual tradition; this understanding is key to our framework. Interreligious harmony, on the other hand, is an attainable and highly desirable goal. Such an approach respects, and is enriched by, the particularities of each tradition. Moreover, within each tradition are the resources (philosophical, theological and spiritual teachings and perspectives) that enable each to enter into respectful, appreciative and cooperative relationships with persons and communities of other traditions."⁷¹

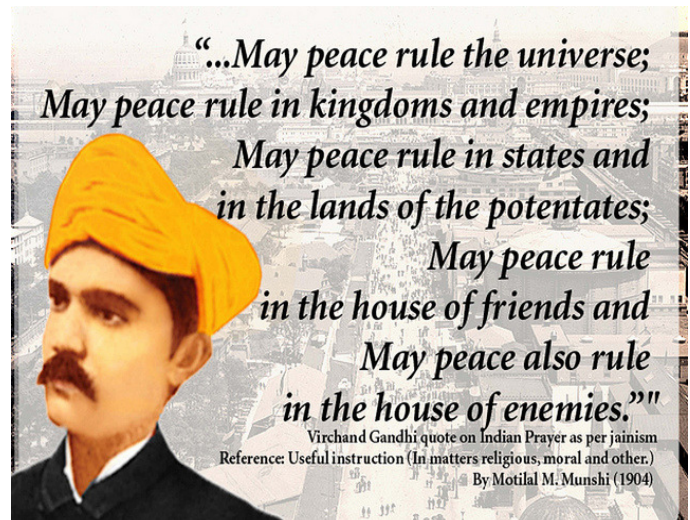


The Council for a Parliament of the World's Religions in 2009 will be located in Melbourne Australia and suggests that the Melbourne Parliament will "educate participants for global peace and justice" through exploring religious conflict and globalization, creating community and cross-cultural networks and addressing issues of religious violence. It suggests it will support "strengthening religious and spiritual communities" by providing a special focus on indigenous and Aboriginal spiritualities; facilitating cooperation between Pagan, Jewish, Christian, Bahai, Jain, Muslim, Buddhist, Sikh and Hindu communities; crafting new responses to religious extremism; and confronting home grown terrorism and violence.

The Parliament engages religious and spiritual communities by:

- Focusing on Indigenous and Aboriginal spiritualities at the Parliament to honour these communities and encourage reconciliation.
- Facilitating cooperation between all of Australia's religious and spiritual Communities.
- Enabling religious and spiritual communities to increase social capital by building lasting cross-cultural networks of understanding and cooperation.
- Challenging religious and spiritual leaders to craft new responses and solutions to religious extremism, wherever it occurs and increase human security.
- Helping religious and spiritual communities to confront homegrown

"There will be no world peace until there is peace among the religions." Hans Küng, President of the Global Ethic Foundation



Hans Kung is a Christian theologian whose influential writings have been criticized by the Vatican, which in 1979 stripped him of his right to teach as a representative of the Church. Ordained a priest in 1954, Kung was the youngest theologian to participate in Vatican II, the council which dramatically modernized aspects of the Catholic Church.

The dominant viewpoint amongst many bible scholars is that the end times will witness the emergence of a false prophet, a second individual that will emerge on the world scene but more concentrated within the religious realm and will somehow manage to unite world religions⁷⁴ in unified support of the political world leader. The false prophet referred to in Revelation 13 will be able to command significant support through the ability to perform miraculous activities that will cause significant astonishment.

Some believe the false prophet will be an apostate pope that will literally forsake many of the teachings of the early church fathers.¹²⁰ Others believe the false prophet will be a major apostate evangelical super star from a major global ministry whose premise is built on signs and wonders. This has caused a significant amount of material to be focused on Benny Hinn's evangelical movement because of the controversy surrounding some of his teachings.⁷² Others believe he will be a spiritual leader from the eastern religions.⁷⁴

8. AMERICA: THE CHAMELEON COMPLEX

Mainstream Bible Prophecy to a large extent, teaches that the United States is by heritage, a Christian nation in which the founders of the Americans constitution were men of God who believed in the inspiration of the scriptures. References are largely given to some of the heroes of American history who were involved in the early shaping of American destiny and the constitution by which Americans would be ruled.

Reference is given to the fact that Our Declaration of Independence and Constitution are based on Judeo-Christian teachings. The textbook of their teachings being the Holy Bible, the "Owners Manual" or "The Book of Instructions" for our nation. This does not mean that all the people were or are Christian. It merely means that there was a Christian consensus and all our founding documents, laws, moral codes and institutions are based on Christian principles from the Bible.

"It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible" President George Washington, September 17th, 1796¹⁷⁴

1776 - The Declaration of Independence says:

"We hold these truths to be self evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness - That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men ... " ¹⁷⁴

"It is the duty of all nations, as well as of men, to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God and to recognize the sublime truth announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord." 1861 - Abraham Lincoln:¹⁷⁴

"After a week on perplexing problems ... it does so rest my soul to come into the house of The Lord and to sing and mean it, 'Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty' ... (my) great joy and glory that in occupying an exalted position in the nation, I am enabled, to preach the practical moralities of the Bible to my fellow-countrymen and to hold up Christ as the hope and Savior of the world." ¹⁷⁵

"America was born to exemplify the devotion to the elements of righteousness which are derived from the Holy Scriptures." 1913 - President Woodrow Wilson:¹⁷⁴

"The time has come to turn to God and reassert our trust in Him for the Healing of America ... our country is in need of and ready for a spiritual renewal." 1980 - President Ronald Reagan:¹⁷⁴

"The great faith that led our Nation's Founding Fathers to pursue this bold experience in self-government has sustained us in uncertain and perilous times; it has given us strength to this very day. Like them, we do very well to recall our 'firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence,' to give thanks for the freedom and prosperity this nation enjoys, and to pray for continued help and guidance from our wise and loving Creator." May 3, 1990 - President George Bush proclaims National Day of Prayer.¹⁷⁴

By selectively choosing texts from the writings of the Founders without any effort to explore them in the context of the 18th-century world in which they were written it has been a generational trend to give credit to the early American thinkers like George Washington who quoted from the Bible and made reference to God on a number of occasions. Granted, the Founding Fathers were the products of a Christian culture, but it is fact that some were never comfortable with such a belief culture.

During the past two or three decades, the conservative evangelical movement (known as The Christian Right) has been the fastest growing sector within the American Christian churches. The Christian Right has been marshalling its forces and maneuvering its troops in an effort to re-shape the landscape of American politics. It has fascinated social scientists and journalists as the first right-wing social movement in postwar America to achieve significant political and popular support, and it has repeatedly defied those who would step up to write its obituary.

In 2000, while many touted the demise of Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition, the broader undercurrents of the movement were instrumental in helping George W. Bush win the White House. Bush repaid that swell of support by choosing Senator John Ashcroft, once the movement's favored presidential candidate, as attorney general. The Christian Right in American politics is a recognition of the movement as a force still to be reckoned with, undertakes the importance of making an historical analysis of the Christian Right in state politics during its heyday, 1980 to the millennium.

However that said there is something of a chameleon complex regarding the identity of America as we will see.

"We do not want another committee. We have too many already. What we want is a man of significant stature to hold the allegiance of the people, and to lift us out of economic morass into which we are sinking. Send us such a man and be it god or devil, we will receive him"⁷³

Paul-Henri Spaak was the first president of the United Nations General Assembly and was also a prime minister of Belgium and one of the early planners of the European Common Market, as well as a secretary-general of NATO. Maybe Henri Spaak did not realize the full implication of what he said after observing the economic chaos across western Europe during the great depression. However the fact that a man as highly placed as President of the European Council would be willing to admit that he would receive a devil in exchange for order from chaos has become a significant milestone in the study of bible prophecy.

The need and call for a strong man has been a major premise of one world globalists. The premise of a one world government is one in which powerful and secretive societies are plotting to eventually rule the world via an autonomous world government, which would replace sovereign states and other checks and balances in world power struggles. Historical and current events are seen as steps in an on-going plot to rule the world primarily through a combination of political finance, social engineering, mind control, and fear-based propaganda. The creation of the European Union and the emergence of the North American Union are seen as strategic directives towards global government. International banking interests are planning to eventually subvert the independence of the United States of America by subordinating national sovereignty to the United Nations.

Although the United Nations features prominently in some theories, conspiracy theory in the twenty-first century allows for the addition of many ideas that in the past might have been thought mutually exclusive. Extra-terrestrials (either the "Reptilians" or the "Greys" or both), the Trilateral Commission, the Illuminati, and other groups may be included in the conspiracy, in more or less dominant roles, as in views espoused by the likes of William Cooper and David Icke.⁷⁵



David Icke’s research shows that of all the forty three U.S. presidents that have governed the United States (before Barack Obama), thirty four have been genetic descendants from just one person, Charlemagne, the brutal eighth century King of the Franks and nineteen of them directly descended from King Edward III of England. In fact, the presidential candidate with the most royal genes has won every single American election.

“This information comes from Burke's Peerage, which is the Bible of aristocratic genealogy, based in London. Every presidential election in America, since and including George Washington in 1789 to Bill Clinton, has been won by the candidate with the most British and French royal genes. Of the 42 presidents to Clinton, 33 have been related to two people: Alfred the Great, King of England, and Charlemagne, the most famous monarch of France. So it goes on: 19 of them are related to England's Edward III, who has 2000 blood connections to Prince Charles. The same goes with the banking families in America. George Bush and Barbara Bush are from the same bloodline - the Pierce bloodline, which changed its name from Percy, when it crossed the Atlantic. Percy is one of the aristocratic families of Britain, to this day. They were involved in the Gunpowder Plot to blow up Parliament at the time of Guy Fawkes”¹⁰³

If America declared its Independence from the European monarchies in 1776, how is it possible that every single president has descended from European monarchs? If presidents are democratically elected as we are told, what are the odds that we would always choose members of British and French royal bloodlines to lead us?

“The Americas have always been owned and governed by the same royal families of Britain and Europe that conventional history states as being among those defeated during the wars of so-called ‘Independence.’”¹⁰⁶

Whilst much of this report so far seems to have been focused on Europe and the Roman Empire whether ancient or revived, it is also an accepted fact that America has a strategic place as the Guardian of the New World Order. The term new world order comes from the latin phrase novus ordo seclorum means "New Order of the Ages", but is sometimes translated as "New Secular Order" and is found on the American Dollar. "Novus Ordo Seclorum" was the motto suggested in 1782 by Charles Thomson, the Founding Father chosen by the Continental Congress to come up with the final design for the Great Seal of the United States.

On the base of the pyramid are the numerical letters MDCCLXXVI & underneath the following motto. 'novus ordo seclorum'. Some of those who believe that the Freemasons are involved in the conspiracy to create a New World Order claim that the motto is inspired by Freemasonry, and is one of the clues to the True Masters of the World. By circumscribing the 6 pointed hexagram, or Star of David, over the pyramid, 5 of the 6 apices (the 6th being the 'All-seeing eye'), point near letters spelling S-M-O-N-A, which can be rearranged to spell Mason. Advocates of the conspiracy theory also cite the 13 steps that ascend the pyramid, and the 72 visible blocks on the front. The Great US seal is also ascribed as employing heavily masonic imagery, with many believing the eagle to represent the masonic phoenix.



According to many researchers the great seal is a mass of occultic and pagan symbolism. The symbols identify the United States of America as being the foundation of the new order of The ages and also represent something more sinister. Within these 9 numerals are 3 groups of 3 hence MDCCLXXVI becomes "MDC", "CLX", and "XVI". Taking the sub group patterns into separate Sub groups yields: "M.DC", "C.LX" and "X.VI". Taking the two sub group patterns into separate numbers yields "M.C.X" and "DCLXVI" which respectively represent "1110" and "666". Stan Deyo in his book the Cosmic Conspiracy says,

"One finds that '666' is quite possibly a modern mystery code for a Babylonian number. This means that '666' could represent another number based on the Babylonian monetary system which used dollars comprised of 60 cents as opposed to the modern or Arabic system of dollars comprised of a 100. The "Sixty-based" Babylonian system was known as a sexagesimal system. The one hundred-based modern system is called a centesimal system. To convert from Babylonian to Arabic, one must divide the Babylonian number by 100 and then multiply the result by 60. Hence 666 Arabic (modern) is equal to 1110 Babylonian. So, the roman numerals on the Great Seal of the United States of America are those of the antichrist and his new world order in both the Babylonian and modern systems of monetary exchange."⁷⁶

The dilemma facing many bible prophecy scholars is that there is a cultural tendency to believe that the United States is a great Christian nation whose leaders are born again Christians with an evangelical knowledge and background. That it is the country's role to be the protector of Israel and the Jews during the last days. Christian Zionism is an integral element of this religious right school of thought.

As the conservative evangelical movement becomes the fastest growing sector within the American Christian churches, estimates of the number of evangelicals range from 100 - 130 million, out of which 20-25 percent could be classified as fundamentalist - some 20-26 million Americans. Of the fundamentalists, most, but not all, are inclined to support the Christian Zionist position. A recent poll by the Pew Research Center noted that 58 percent of evangelicals believe in the Battle of Armageddon, an indicator that they would be predisposed to Christian Zionism.¹⁷⁶

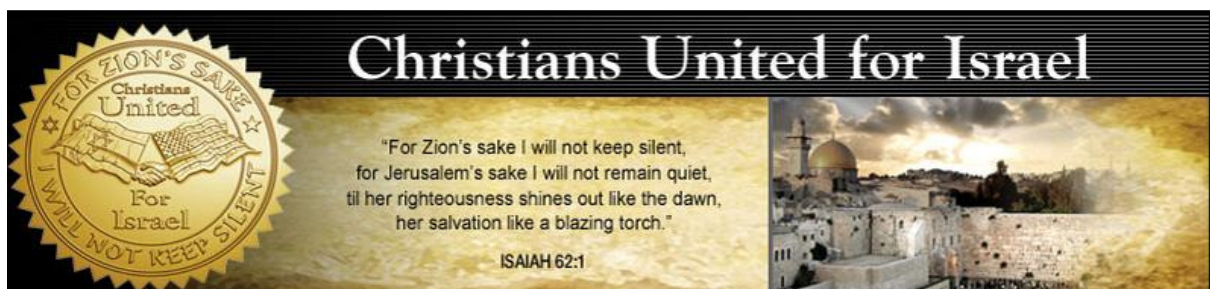
Today, Christian Zionists form the largest base of support for pro-Israeli interests in the US. Working since the late 1970s, the pro-Israel lobby has mobilized both economic and political support for Israel

among fundamentalists. For example, a relatively new organization, Stand for Israel, has emerged in the past two years to work closely with AIPAC, the leading pro-Israel lobby, to support and hold rallies on behalf of Ariel Sharon's policies.¹⁷⁷

Pro-Israel groups and fundamentalist Christian groups have brought significant political and economic pressures to bear on Congress and the Bush presidency. Their support for Sharon's militant Likud ideology are unquestioned and usually supported by selected Biblical footnotes. Policies such as increased Israeli settlements, the pre-emptive assassination of Palestinian leaders, Israeli sovereignty over all of historic Palestine (especially Jerusalem) which lead to the expulsion of former Palestinian President Yasser Arafat (and indeed the mass expulsion of large sectors of the Palestinian population), would find ready support within the Christian right.

Christian Zionism is an integral element of the most dynamic sector of the religious right, and John Hagee has been its leading figure since the death of Jerry Falwell and the semi-retirement of Pat Robertson.⁷⁷ Until recently, many non-Orthodox Jews looked at John Hagee as the archetypal militant, bible-thumping Christian fundamentalist they were taught to dislike and mistrust.

Hagee, who leads the evangelical group Christians United for Israel, is a proponent of U.S. aid and support for Israel, and is a major ally of Israeli conservatives who reject any "land for peace" formula in dealing with the Palestinians. But Hagee is viewed with distrust by some Jews and Israelis because his brand of Christian Zionism closely links support for Israel to the end of the world and the conversion of the Jews to Christianity.



Hagee has been continually criticized by the president of the Union for Reform Judaism, Rabbi Yoffie.

"Christian Zionists, and especially Christians United for Israel, do not offer unconditional support for the Jewish state. They offer support for a particular religious vision, particular Israeli leaders, and particular political factions, all of which reflect their own prophecy-driven view of the Middle East,"¹⁷⁸

Yoffie said in an April speech, calling Hagee and his group "extremists." He also said

"No, we cannot cooperate with the Christian Zionists" because "What they mean by support of Israel and what we mean by support of Israel are two very different things."¹⁷

However many Jewish political leaders have also embraced Hagee.

"Support for Israel is something that we should welcome and yet be very much aware of where that support comes from and cautious about it,"¹⁸⁰

The Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) has strongly praised John Hagee, following attacks upon him by Yoffie. In a speech to URJ on April 2, Rabbi ZOA National President Morton A. Klein said,

"In the end, when Israel is under enormous pressure with few defenders and supporters, Pastor Hagee's support is critical. He sends a message to the President and Congress and to the media that the Jews are not alone, thank G-d. For Pastor Hagee, in addition to his great work throughout the year throughout the country, he brings 5,000 Christians to Washington every year with vigor and love and support for Israel that we Jews can learn something from. He takes our holy Torah seriously. Should Jews criticize him for that? And he has reawakened the Christian heart and soul inspiring them to realize G-d's holy land was given to the Jews, his chosen people. They love us – and we love them." ¹⁷⁹

Hagee runs Christians United for Israel, a national lobby, and is the architect of the Night to Honor Israel program in cities around the country. He is almost exclusively fixated on the well-being of Israel and Jews, and backs his leanings with abundant financial support. For instance in April 2008, Hagee announced whilst in Jerusalem, a donation of \$6 million USD to Israeli causes reaffirming that Israel must remain in control of all Jerusalem. Also in attendance at the speech was Benjamin Netanyahu, the leader of Israel's hard-line opposition Likud Party.

Hagee's view of the messianic prophecies in scripture have a literal and conservative non negotiable stance citing the following reasons on his website why every Christian should support Israel.

Genesis 12:3 "And I will bless them that bless thee and curse him that curseth thee; and in thee shall all nations of the earth be blessed." Point: God has promised to bless the man or nation that blesses the Chosen People. History has proven beyond reasonable doubt that the nations that have blessed the Jewish people have had the blessing of God; the nations that have cursed the Jewish people have experienced the curse of God.

St. Paul recorded in Romans 15:27 "For if the Gentiles have shared in their (the Jews) spiritual things, they are indebted to minister to them also in material things."

It is not possible to say, "I am a Christian" and not love the Jewish people. The Bible teaches that love is not what you say, but what you do. (1 John 3:18) "A bell is not a bell until you ring it, a song is not a song until you sing it, love is not love until you share it."

While some Christians try to deny the connection between Jesus of Nazareth and the Jews of the world, Jesus never denied his Jewishness. He was born Jewish, He was circumcised on the eighth day in keeping with Jewish tradition, He had his Bar Mitzvah on his 13th birthday, He kept the law of Moses, He wore the Prayer Shawl Moses commanded all Jewish men to wear, He died on a cross with an inscription over His head, "King of the Jews!"

"Pray for the peace of Jerusalem, they shall prosper that love thee." (Psalm 122:6) the scriptural principle of prosperity is tied to blessing Israel and the city of Jerusalem.

Why did Jesus Christ go to the house of Cornelius in Capernaum and heal his servant, which was ready to die? What logic did the Jewish elders use with Jesus to convince Him to come into the house of a Gentile and perform a miracle?

The logic they used is recorded in Luke 7:5; "For He loveth our nation, and He hath built us a synagogue." The message? This Gentile deserves the blessing of God because he loves our nation and has done something practical to bless the Jewish people.

Why did God the Father select the house of Cornelius in Caesarea (Acts Chapter 10) to be the first Gentile house in Israel to receive the Gospel? The answer is given repeatedly in Acts 10.

Acts 10:2 "a devout man, (Cornelius) and one that feared God with all his house, which gave much alms to the people, and prayed to God always." Who were the people to whom Cornelius gave these alms? They were the Jews.

These combined Scriptures verify that PROSPERITY (Genesis 12:3 and Psalm 122:6), HEALING (Luke 7:1-5) and the OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT came first to Gentiles that blessed the Jewish people and the nation of Israel in a practical manner.

We support Israel because all other nations were created by an act of men, but Israel was created by an act of God! The Royal Land Grant that was given to Abraham and his seed through Isaac and Jacob with an everlasting and unconditional covenant. (Genesis 12:1-3, 13:14-18, 15:1-21, 17:4-8, 22:15-18, 26:1-5 and Psalm 89:28-37.)

Alternatively, another viewpoint shared by some researchers is that the American government is controlled by global conspirators and various power groups such as the Council on Foreign Relations and Trilateral Commission who are run by men at the highest order of Masonic lodges with an intent for ushering in a global government in accordance with the aims of the Illuminati. According to this view, most Christians hear the word Zionism and think of Jerusalem, but this is a clever ploy of those who worship Satan to confuse the terminology of their political agendas to lull the people to sleep and get them to agree to their policies because they sound good. Zionism is a political agenda, but when Christians hear it they think of Biblical Zion and Jerusalem.

Some of the world's most respected researchers on the history of the Illuminati and their secret plan for global government believe that Zionism became a political agenda of the Bolshevik Illuminati to capture the area of Israel for their world leader. In fact, their agenda is to rule the world from Jerusalem. According to scripture when the Battle of Armageddon takes place the Antichrist gathers all the world's armies to Israel through a series of power conflicts to eventually unite in a fight against the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. At that time, the Antichrist is ruling from Jerusalem.¹⁷¹

This agenda started back when the Edomite Bolshevik Jews financed Hitler's rise to power in Germany to set up the conditions to establish their own Nation of Israel for Illuminati rule and that is exactly what happened with the Nazi Holocaust. Who was behind the holocaust? The Edomite Jews? Is this because they wanted to exterminate the Torah believing Jews and establish a Babylonian Talmudic Jewish nation in Israel. Evidence suggest this is what we have today. Talmudic apostate Jews ruling, pushing the agenda of the New World Order and Illuminati to set the nation up for the rule of the Antichrist.⁷

Have the likes of John Hagee and other Christian Fundamentalists sincerely missed the mark in terms of a deeper understanding of the plans of the Illuminati. As will be uncovered in further reports there are many paradoxes caused by America's split personality complex (Christianity/Masonic). For instance is John Hagee aware that Benjamin Netanyahu is part of a major Masonic Lodge with a far different theological and strategic messianic objective compared to the Messiah of the Bible that Hagee believes in?. Much of the darker side of Zionism will be addressed further on.

9. THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE MARK OF THE BEAST

“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

Speculation is fairly rampant in the body of Christ today regarding who the antichrist is and what the mark of the beast will be as referred to in Revelation 13:16. It also seemed during the early church that the same speculative spirit was also rampant in their day regarding the identification of the beast and his mark. As stated previously, many believe that through Gematria, the numerical value - 666 - represents one less than perfect (777) and further support this by the fact that "Jesus" totals 888 (one greater than perfect). The feeling was thus that the mark of the beast represented a numerological value of the Beast's actual name.

									
Yod	Tet	Chet	Zayin	Vav	He	Dalet	Gimel	Bet	Alef
(Y)	(T)	(Ch)	(Z)	(V/W)	(H)	(D)	(G)	(B/V)	(silent)
10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
									
Ayin	Samech	Nun	Nun	Mem	Mem	Lamed	Khaf	Kaf	
(silent)	(S)	(N)	(N)	(M)	(M)	(L)	(Kh)	(K/Kh)	
70	60	50	50	40	40	30	20	20	
									
Tav	Shin	Resh	Qof	Tsadeh	Tsadeh	Feh	Peh		
(T)	(Sh/S)	(R)	(Q)	(Ts)	(Ts)	(F)	(P/F)		
400	300	200	100	90	90	80	80		

Irenaeus one of the early Church Father, spoke unapprovingly about a group of fellow believers who were enthusiastically trying to decipher the name of the Antichrist based on the value the Greek letters using Gematria. Their expectation was quite real, thinking that the end-time scenario — tribulation, Antichrist, second coming — would play out in the near future. Irenaeus' advice was to await the fulfillment of certain prophecies in Revelation, including the fall of the Roman Empire and rise of the ten kings, before they begin to speculate on who the Antichrist might be.

"It is therefore more certain, and less hazardous, to await the fulfillment of the prophecy, than to be making surmises, and casting about for any names that may present themselves, inasmuch as many names can be found possessing the number mentioned; and the same question will, after all, remain unsolved. For if there are many names found possessing this number, it will be asked which among them shall the coming man bear." (Irenaeus, Against Heresies, Book V, Chapter 30)

Whilst during the early church the focus was on Gematria as a means to uncode the definition of the Mark of the Beast, this then took a sudden turn of interpretation during the reformation period to a view that the mark of the beast was in reference to the Roman Catholic Church System.

THE REFORMATION UNDERSTANDING OF THE MARK OF THE BEAST

John Wycliffe “When the western church was divided for about 40 years between two rival popes, one in Rome and the other in Avignon, France, each pope called the other pope antichrist - and John Wycliffe is reputed to have regarded them as both being right: “two halves of Antichrist, making up the perfect Man of Sin between them.” — Ibid

Thomas Cranmer (1489-1556) (Anglican): “Whereof it followeth Rome to be the seat of antichrist, and the pope to be very antichrist himself. I could prove the same by many other scriptures, old writers, and strong reasons.” (Referring to prophecies in Revelation and Daniel.) — Works by Cranmer, Vol. 1, pp. 6-7.

John Wesley (1703-1791) (Methodist): Speaking of the Papacy, John Wesley wrote, “He is in an emphatical sense, the Man of Sin, as he increases all manner of sin above measure. And he is, too, properly styled the Son of Perdition, as he has caused the death of numberless multitudes, both of his opposers and followers... He it is...that exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped...claiming the highest power, and highest honour...claiming the prerogatives which belong to God alone.” — Antichrist and His Ten Kingdoms, by John Wesley, pg. 110.

Martin Luther (1483-1546) (Lutheran): Based on prophetic studies, Martin Luther finally declared, “We here are of the conviction that the papacy is the seat of the true and real Antichrist.” (Aug. 18, 1520). — Taken from The Prophetic Faith of Our Fathers, by LeRoy Froom. Vol. 2., pg. 121. “Luther ... proved, by the revelations of Daniel and St. John, by the epistles of St. Paul, St. Peter, and St. Jude, that the reign of Antichrist, predicted and described in the Bible, was the Papacy ... And all the people did say, Amen! A holy terror seized their souls. It was Antichrist whom they beheld seated on the pontifical throne. This new idea, which derived greater strength from the prophetic descriptions launched forth by Luther into the midst of his contemporaries, inflicted the most terrible blow on Rome.” — Taken from J. H. Merle D’aubigne’s History of the Reformation of the Sixteen Century, book vi, chapter xii, p. 215.

John Calvin (1509-1564) (Presbyterian): “Some persons think us too severe and censorious when we call the Roman pontiff Antichrist. But those who are of this opinion do not consider that they bring the same charge of presumption against Paul himself, after whom we speak and whose language we adopt... I shall briefly show that (Paul’s words in II Thess. 2) are not capable of any other interpretation than that which applies them to the Papacy.” — Taken from Institutes of the Christian Religion, by John Calvin.

Roger Williams (1603-1683) (First Baptist Pastor in America): Pastor Williams spoke of the Pope as “the pretended Vicar of Christ on earth, who sits as God over the Temple of God, exalting himself not only above all that is called God, but over the souls and consciences of all his vassals, yea over the Spirit of Christ, over the Holy Spirit, yea, and God himself...speaking against the God of heaven, thinking to change times and laws; but he is the son of perdition (II Thess. 2).” — The Prophetic Faith of Our Fathers, by Froom, Vol. 3, pg. 52.

John Knox (1505-1572) (Scotch Presbyterian): John Knox sought to counteract “that tyranny which the pope himself has for so many ages exercised over the church.” As with Luther, he finally concluded that the Papacy was “the very antichrist, and son of perdition, of whom Paul speaks.” — The Zurich Letters, by John Knox, pg. 199.

Cotton Mather (1663-1728) (Congregational Theologian): “The oracles of God foretold the rising of an Antichrist in the Christian Church: and in the Pope of Rome, all the characteristics of that Antichrist are so marvelously answered that if any who read the Scriptures do not see it, there is a marvelous blindness upon them.” — Taken from The Fall of Babylon by Cotton Mather in Froom’s book, The Prophetic Faith of Our Fathers, Vol. 3, pg. 113.

The Westminster Confession of Faith (1647): “There is no other head of the church but the Lord Jesus Christ. Nor can the pope of Rome in any sense be head thereof; but is that Antichrist, that man of sin and son of perdition that exalteth himself in the church against Christ and all that is called God.” — This is Taken from Philip Schaff’s, The Creeds of Christendom, With a History and Critical Notes, III, p. 658, 659, ch. 25, sec. 6.

“The NUMBER OF A MAN”*

LET us turn to canon law itself, and see what claims are made for the pope in the highest judicial document of the Roman Catholic church. In “Corpus Juris Canonici, emendatum et notis, Gregorii XIII, Pontifex Maximus,” published at Lyons in 1622, Column 295, occurs the following: “Ut sicut beatus Petrus in terris Vicarius filii Dei esse videtur constitutus, ita & Pontifices, qui ipsius principis Apostolorum gerunt vices principatus potestatem, amplius quam terrena imperialis nostrae serenitatis mansuetudo habere videtur, concessam a nobis nostroque imperio obtineant, eligentes nobis ipsum principem Apostolorum, vel eius vicarios firmos apud Deum esse patronos.”

Which is to say:

“As the blessed Peter is seen to have been constituted Vicar of the son of God on the earth, so the pontiffs, who are the representatives of that same chief of the apostles, should obtain from us and our empire the power of a supremacy greater than the clemency of our earthly imperial serenity is seen to have conceded to it, choosing that same chief of the apostles and his vicars to be our constant intercessors with God.”

We are aware that some Catholics contend that the title of the pope is not “Vicar of the Son of God”; that it is “Vicar of Christ.” But the fact of the matter is that the titles, “Vicar of the Son of God,” “Vicar of Jesus Christ,” and “Vicar of Christ,” are used by Catholic writers interchangeably to express the power and authority supposed to be possessed by the pope. In fact, this is done by no less an authority than Cardinal Manning, one of the leading English cardinals. He was made a cardinal in 1875. The Roman Catholic church holds Cardinal Manning’s works in high esteem, as is seen by the encomiums heaped upon him by the “Catholic Encyclopedia.” Says Cardinal Manning, in his work, “The Temporal Power of the Vicar of Jesus Christ,” pages 140-41 (Edition of 1862):

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■ Page TWELVE

By
Frank
A.
COFFIN

(Concluding
“Messengers of
Doom” in our
February issue)



■ Pope Pius XI, prior to his present illness.

“So in like manner they say now, ‘See this Catholic Church, this Church of God, feeble and weak, rejected even by the very nations called Catholic. There is Catholic France, and Catholic Germany, and Catholic Italy, giving up this exploded figment of the temporal power of the Vicar of Jesus Christ.’ And so, because the Church seems weak, and the Vicar of the Son of God is renewing the Passion of His Master upon earth, therefore we are scandalized, therefore we turn our faces from him.” (Italics ours.)



Cardinal Manning wrote before the resurgence of the papacy which has taken place within the past decade. Today the nations are saying, almost in the words of Scripture: “Who is like unto Rome, who is able to make war with him.” (Revelation 13:4.) But we would call attention to the fact that throughout Cardinal Manning’s work the titles, “Vicar of the Son of God,” “Vicar of Jesus Christ,” and “Vicar of Christ” are used in referring to the pope. The same practice is followed in canon law. It is plain, then, that the titles, “Vicar of Christ,” and “Vicar of the Son of God,” are one and the same, as ought to be clear merely from a consideration of the identical meaning of these two phrases. The title, “Vicar of the Son of God,” was applied to the pope many centuries ago, and has continually been applied to him for almost 1200 years, even to modern times. Upon this point Cardinal Manning says:

“The temporal power in the hands of [Pope] St. Gregory I was a fatherly and patriarchal rule over nations not as yet reduced to civil order. In the hands of St. Leo III it became a power of creating empires. In the hands of St. Gregory VII it was a scourge to chasten them. In the hands of Alexander III it was a dynasty, ruling supremely, in the name of God, over the powers of the world. And now in these later times the temporal sovereignty has become a law of the conscience, an axiom of the reason. Through long contests and denials it has passed into the consciences, intellects, and hearts of men. . . . So that I may say there never was a time when the temporal power of the Vicar of the Son of God [Latin, Vicarius Filii Dei], though assailed as we see it, was more firmly rooted throughout the whole unity of the Catholic Church in the hearts and convictions of its members.

“It was a dignified obedience to bow to the Vicar of the Son of God, and to remit the arbitration of their griefs to one whom all wills consented to obey.”—“The Temporal Power of the Vicar of Jesus Christ,” by Henry Edward Manning, London, 1862, pp. 291-32. Italics ours.

Have we need of further testimony that the pope claims to be “Vicarius Filii Dei”; that is, “Vicar of the Son of God”? Let us turn then to Cardinal Manning’s work, “Petri Privilegium [The Privilege of Peter],” (Continued on page 17)

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“So in like manner they say now, ‘See this Catholic Church, this Church of God, feeble and weak, rejected even by the very nations called Catholic. There is Catholic France, and Catholic Germany, and Catholic Italy, giving up this exploded figment of the temporal power of the *Vicar of Jesus Christ.*’ And so, because the Church seems weak, and the *Vicar of the Son of God* is renewing the Passion of His Master upon earth, therefore we are scandalized, therefore we turn our faces from him.” (Italics ours.)



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The Number of a Man

(Continued from page 12)

Three Pastoral Letters to the Clergy of the Diocese,” and read, on pages 68 and 69 of the second letter the following:

“The Council of Florence in 1439 decreed: ‘We define, that the Roman Pontiff is Successor of Blessed Peter, Prince of the Apostles, and true Vicar of Christ, and the Head of the whole Church, and the Father and Doctor of all Christians; and to him in Blessed Peter was delivered, by our Lord Jesus Christ, the plenary power of feeding, ruling, and governing the Universal Church.’—*Labbe, Concil. xviii, p. 526. Ed. Ven. 1732.*

“The Council of Lateran, in 1520, condemned as heretical the proposition, ‘the Roman Pontiff, the Successor of Peter, is not the Vicar of Christ constituted by Christ Himself in Blessed Peter over all the Churches of the whole world.’—*Ibid. xix, p. 1052.*”

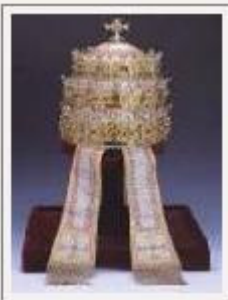
Notice that the Council of Florence defined “that the Roman Pontiff is successor of Blessed Peter,” while Roman Catholic canon law declares: “Blessed Peter is seen to have been constituted *Vicarius Filii Dei*”; that is, “Vicar of the Son of God.” And the Council of Florence, to make the matter doubly sure, reiterates the Catholic claim of centuries that the pope is still the Vicar of Christ.

It is upon this claim to supremacy, this claim that the pope is Vicar of the Son of God, that the whole papal structure rests; for if the pope is not Vicar of the Son of God, he is without any authority whatever.

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Below is a Papal tiara that was presented to Pius IX by Belgium in 1871. The complete inscription including text on the unseen sides is: IESV CHRISTI VICARIO INFALLIBILI ORBIS SVPREMO IN TERRA RECTORI REGVM ATQVE POPVLORVM PATRI which translates to: *To the Infallible Vicar of Jesus Christ To the Supreme Governor of the World on Earth To the Father of Nations and Kings.*

	V=5	F=0	D=500	
	I=1	I=1	E=0	
	C=100	L=50	I=1	
	A=0	I=1		
	R=0	I=1		
	I=1			
	U=5			
	S=0			
	Total	112	+ 53	+ 501 = 666

The premise of the theology could thus be summarized as follows

- It would rise to be a great power after the fall of the pagan Roman Empire (after 476 A.D.)

- It would geographically be a small nation. (a little horn)
- It would uproot three of the ten kingdoms the Roman Empire collapsed into and reveals who on this point alone.
- It would rule over many nations, people and tongues. (it will be universal)
- It would be headquartered in the city of seven hills, Rome.
- It would be a religio-political entity - a political city-state ruled by a priest-king.
- It would have a priest-king that would make great and blasphemous claims.
- It would claim authority over all kings.
- It would claim its power to change the holy times and laws of God as its MARK of authority.
- It would be an apostate Church that makes the nations drink her cup of apostate doctrine.
- It would be a “mother” Church, with apostate daughters coming from her.
- It would be a persecuting power, killing the faithful saints of Jesus Christ as heretics.
- It would hold power and authority for 1260 years following the fall of pagan Rome.
- It would suffer a deadly wound that will end 1260 years of dominance and persecution.

The deadly wound is seen as Napoleon’s imprisonment of the Pope but such a belief sees Mussolini’s treaty with the Vatican as the re-emergence of the Papal Power.

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTISM AND SUNDAY WORSHIP

The views of the reformation period are championed today by the Seventh Day Adventist Church who evolved the understanding of the mark of the beast as in relation to Sunday Worship which they see as direct contravention to Sabbath worship. The movement bases this on their interpretation of Daniel 7:25 where scripture says the beast power would change the law of God.

“The Pope is of great authority and power, that he is able to modify, declare, or interpret even divine laws. The Pope can modify divine law, since his power is not of man, but of God, and he acts as vicegerent of God upon earth...” — Lucius Ferraris, in “*Prompta Bibliotheca Canonica, Juridica, Moralis, Theologica, Ascetica, Polemica, Rubristica, Historica*”, Volume V, article on “Papa, Article II”, titled “Concerning the extent of Papal dignity, authority, or dominion and infallibility”, #30, published in Petit-Montrouge (Paris) by J. P. Migne, 1858 edition.

“We may according to the fullness of our power, dispose of the law and dispense above the law. Those whom the Pope of Rome doth separate, it is not a man that separates them but God. For the Pope holdeth place on earth, not simply of a man but of the true God....dissolves, not by human but rather by divine authority....I am in all and above all, so that God Himself and I, the vicar of God, hath both one consistory, and I am able to do almost all that God can do...Wherefore, no marvel, if it be in my power to dispense with all things, yea with the precepts of Christ.” — *Decretales Domini Gregori ix Translatione Episcoporum*, (on the Transference of Bishops), title 7, chapter 3; *Corpus Juris Canonice* (2nd Leipzig ed., 1881), col. 99; (Paris, 1612), tom. 2, *Decretales*, col. 205 (while Innocent III was Pope).

Seventh Day Adventist then argue what law did the Roman Catholic Church change and by whose authority? Reference is given to 1562 where the Archbishop of Reggio openly declared that tradition now stood above scripture.

“The authority of the Church is illustrated most clearly by the scriptures, for on one hand she recommends them, declares them to be divine, and offers them to us to be read, and on the other hand, the legal precepts in the scriptures taught by the Lord have ceased by virtue of the same authority. The Sabbath, the most glorious day in the law, has been changed into the Lord’s day. These and other similar matters have not ceased by virtue of Christ’s teaching (for He says that He has come to fulfill the law, not to destroy it), but they have been changed by the authority of the Church.” — Gaspare de Posso, Archbishop of Reggio, Council of Trent.

Seventh Day Adventist argue that the first Sunday law was enforced by Emperor Constantine in March, 321 A.D. when he joined the Roman Catholic Church. The following is the historical quote of this first Sunday Law.

“The Church made a sacred day of Sunday ... largely because it was the weekly festival of the sun; for it was a definite Christian policy to take over the pagan festivals endeared to the people by tradition, and to give them a Christian significance.” Source: Arthur Weigall, *The Paganism in Our Christianity*, p. 145. Copyright 1928 by G. p. Putnam’s Sons, New York.

After Constantine’s first Sunday law, the Roman Catholic Church continued enforcing Sunday law in Europe for more than a further 1,000 years. Sunday laws were also enforced in England for centuries. Amazingly, this practice was continued in colonial America. In the 1600s, if you lived in Massachusetts, Virginia, or Connecticut, you were required by law to attend church on Sunday. Disobedience was punished by heavy fines, whipping, confinement in a cage, and in some cases, even by death. Hence colonial Protestant America still followed Constantine and the Catholic Church in the uniting of church and state, and enforcing Sunday laws.

The American Revolution resulted in complete separation from England and in the forming of a new nation. The American Constitution and the Bill of Rights fully established the doctrine of religious freedom. The First Amendment now denies the right of government to enforce religion. The Statue of Liberty at the entrance to New York harbor remains a monument against Rome and against the history of religious persecution in Europe. So in the United States Church is separate from the state. Both have their place and both remain free. Yet history reveals that Protestant America has never completely cut loose from the City of Seven Hills, from the Vatican itself.

On May 21, 1888, a New Hampshire Christian senator introduced the following bill into the fiftieth Congress,

“Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that no person, or corporation, or the agent, servant, or the employee of any person or corporation, shall perform or authorize to be performed any secular work ... on the first day of the week, commonly known as the Lord’s day” (The National Sunday Law, Arguments of Alonzo T. Jones before the United States Senate Committee on Education and Labor at Washington, D.C., December 13, 1888. 1889, p. v.).

The whole purpose of this bill was to produce enforced Sunday keeping nationwide, and this proposed legislation had the support of Christian Churches across America. But this was just groundwork for future legislation and the Blair Sunday bill was finally ruled unconstitutional, and it died in committee. Watch a re-enactment of this Sunday Law Debate.

Pope John Paul II issued an extensive pastoral letter on May 31, 1998, *Dies Domini* (The Day of the Lord), which contained a passionate appeal for the revival of Sunday observance. The Pope said the prevailing neglect of Sunday reflects a spiritual crisis inside the Catholic Church and within

Christianity in general. Notice his words: "The Lord's Day has structured the history of the Church through two thousand years: how could we think that it will not continue to shape the future?" Shockingly, the Pope then urged world governments to enforce Sunday laws! "In the particular circumstances of our own time, Christians will naturally strive to ensure that civil legislation respects their duty to keep Sunday holy." Such statements are right in line with this official Vatican position,

"Christians should seek recognition of Sundays and the Church's holy days as legal holidays" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, p. 528. 1994.)

THE MODERNISTIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE MARK OF THE BEAST

In the last one hundred years the belief of the reformation period has been overtaken by a more modernistic interpretations. Recent definitions include Chinese Chop, an invisible laser tatoo (with a name coded into it equaling 666), an embedded microchip, the Universal Product Code (UPC, bar code), social security number, laser scanning, credit card with a loyalty badge, a literal stamp on the forehead or right hand, a tattoo of the Soviet Union's Red Star, an actual physical brand, one's zip code preceding social security number with 666 in front of it, a loyalty mark containing one's home region, microchips in smart cards, a trade number in association with one's bank account, two Greek letters that stand for Christ with a serpent between them. Others have suggested iris scans, fingerprints, voice patterns, facial features, etc. as related to the mark. Some totally spiritualize the mark, associating it with mind, and making it an invisible mark.

An exhaustive summary of the modernistic interpretation over the last one hundred years can be summarized as follows:

Richard Abanes, End-Time Visions, 1998

. . . nothing in the Bible, either linguistically or grammatically, indicates that the mark of the beast in Revelation 13 is a literal mark on, or in, the skin." (Richard Abanes, End Time Visions, p. 127, 1998)

M.J. Agee, Revelations 2000, 1998

The mark may even be used as it appears in the Greek, Chi, Xi, Sigma . The middle letter even resembles a serpent, as Seiss pointed out in his book, The Apocalypse. . .It could be like the Chinese chop, a mark that represents a person's name made into a stamp similar to our rubber stamps. My neice had her chop made on her trip to Taiwan and Hong Kong. She used her initials. The mark of the beast is also made up of three letters. It is possible that the initials of the False Prophet could be used. (M.J. Agee, Revelations 2000, 1998, p. 325)

Baker's Evangelical Dictionary of Biblical Theology, 1996

This mark is equivalent to the beast's name or number (13:17; cf. 14:11). This enigmatic number is announced in 13:18 as 666.

Isbon Beckwith, The Apocalypse of John, 1919

The mark is explained in v. 17 as consisting of the name of the Beast, or what is equivalent, the number of his name. . . it is set where it could not easily be hid, on the forehead or the right

hand...the agreement of the number and the name is to be ascertained by the calculating the sum of the value of the letters which form the name. (Isbon Beckwith, *The Apocalypse of John*, 1919, p.641, 642)

Gary D. Blevins, 666 The Final Warning!, 1990

I personally believe that the MARK will be either an invisible laser tattoo (they are in the skin) or a micro chip, which will be placed under the skin having the Uniform Product Code (UPC). This MARK, a type of bar code in the skin or on the micro chip, would be scanned at the point of trade. . .

MARK: The UPC code [barcode] with needed information on each person.

NAME OF THE BEAST: This, I believe, will be a name with six letters in each name invisibly coded into the laser tattoo or micro chip. A computer could pick this up as 'six digits' in each name. For example, Ronald Wilson Reagan!

NUMBER OF HIS NAME: The number 666 invisibly coded into the laser tattoo or micro chip and placed on each person in the form of the UPC [barcode] 'mark'. (Gary D. Blevins, *666 The Final Warning!*, 1990, pp. 204, 205)

Roy L. Branson, Jr., The End of the World, 1989

Instead of social security cards and credit cards, the number will be printed in the forehead or hand so that all who receive it will carry it at all times. Using modern technology, it will be a method to eliminate losing such cards or having them stolen or duplicated.

Just how will the number be imprinted? Will it consist only of the numbers 666? We do not know for certain, but it is possible a small computer chip will be embedded under the flesh, or even into the bone of the forehead or hand. That kind of technology is already in place. Another method may be used, but the results will be the same — instant identity, and little or no likelihood of counterfeiting or reproducing. I suspect the numbers 666 will be a prefix followed by other numbers, but I do not know. (Roy L. Branson, Jr., *The End of the World*, 1989, p.78)

Tal Brooke, When the World Will Be As One, 1989

Yet the apostle John describes a reality that has only recently come into focus: global banking, laser scanning, and the universal bar code. . . It is a tiny step to go from using a Visa card or a bank card on the Plus System and other ATM machines, in which the electronic strip is attached to the card, to putting that same strip of information on the human body so that it can be laser scanned. This has already been done with laser tattoos and implanted microchips. . . Again, what better descriptive term could John have found in the ancient world than "the mark," which would enable every citizen to buy or sell who had it? (Tal Brooke, *When the World Will Be As One*, 1989, pp. 229, 230)

Arthur H. Brown, Europe After Democracy, 1993

Europeans believe that the monetary system called ECU (European Currency Unit), now in place, will serve as the medium of commercial exchange and trade. However, the Bible reveals that a mark (or the symbolic number 666) on the right hand or forehead will replace the ECU and become the

mandatory currency expression necessary to conduct trade and commerce in much of the world. Those refusing to accept this mark will be killed. (Arthur H. Brown, *Europe After Democracy*, 1993, pp. 138,139)

Dr. Gary G. Cohen, cited in *Satan's Mark Exposed*, Salem Kirban, 1978

What will be his mark? . . . It appears that it will be some sort of credit card number and loyalty badge combined into one. Possibly it may be a tattoo invisible to the naked eye but visible upon some type of light-beam scan. It will, however, in its numerical aspect have some logo type connection with the number 666, or a code based on these digits, which will be related directly to the name of the Antichrist. (Dr. Gary G. Cohen, cited in *Satan's Mark Exposed*, Salem Kirban, 1978, p.131)

Terry Cook, *The Mark of the New World Order*, 1996

It is my well-researched opinion that the Mark of the Beast, as related in scripture, is absolutely literal. Soon, all people on earth will be coerced into accepting a Mark in their right hand or forehead. I am convinced that it will be an injectable passive RFID transponder with a computer chip — a literal injection with a literal electronic biochip 'mark'. . . I believe that such an implanted identification mark literally will become Satn's Mark of the Beast, as we will discuss further in this chapter." (Terry Cook, *The Mark of the New World Order*, 1996, p. 587)

M.R. DeHaan, *Studies in Revelation*, 1946

What this mark of the beast will be we may not know now. Hundreds of answers have been suggested, but I do not believe these are scriptural. Men have tried to identify this Antichrist, and there have been hundreds of guesses concerning his identity, but all of them have been wrong. . . It is foolish, therefore, to speculate concerning his identity. The same is true of the mark of the beast.

What the mark will be we do not know. . .

There are many who believe that the mark will consist of the number 666 tattooed upon the foreheads and hands of the followers of the beast. . . (M.R. DeHaan, *Studies in Revelation*, 1946, pp. 187, 188)

Samuel B. de Klerk, *Coming Great Prophetic Events*, 1962

All religions are to be placed under the control of the counterfeit ruler or false Christ, making a single world religion. He will have the power to enforce his mark, "666", known as the "the mark of the beast" (Rev. 16:2, 19:20). This mark or stamp of the Antichrist will be placed on the foreheads or right hands of all living persons when Antichrist rules. (Samuel B. de Klerk, *Coming Great Prophetic Events*, 1962, p.72)

Robert W. Faid, *Gorbachev! Has the real Antichrist come?*, 1988

It appears that there will be three separate things or marks which will qualify a man to buy or sell. The first is called the 'Mark of the Beast.' If indeed the antichrist is the leader of the Soviet Union, then the mark may well be the Red Star — the universal communist symbol. This may be a simple tattoo of the communist Red Star.

A second possibility concerns what is meant by the 'name of the beast.' I do not think it will be name of a specific man. . . This mark again might be a simple tattoo indicating that the bearer is a member of the Communist Party, and loyal to the antichrist.

The third may be more complicated — the number of his name. I do not believe that this means simply the number 666. With the recent advancements in computer chip technology, especially in the miniaturization of them, it is now possible to make them microscopic enough to be injected beneath the skin. . .

Although the microchip could possibly be the ultimate in the antichrist's control of people's lives, this would take considerable time to implement and the cost would be enormous. A much simpler form would be to use the series of bars utilized in the Universal Products Code already in place in most supermarkets. This code could be tattooed, possibly with a dye visible only under ultraviolet light, on either the hand or forehead. (Robert W. Faid, *Gorbachev! Has the real Antichrist come?*, 1988, pp. 60,61)

Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum, *The Footsteps of the Messiah: A Study of the Sequence of Prophetic Events*, 1982

In this passage [Rev 13:16-18] whatever the personal name of the Antichrist will be, if his name is spelled out in Hebrew characters, the numerical value of his name is 666. So this is the name that will be put on the worshippers of the Antichrist. (Arnold G. Fruchtenbaum, *The Footsteps of the Messiah: A Study of the Sequence of Prophetic Events*, 1982, p. 173)

Oliver Greene, *The Revelation, Verse by Verse*, 1963

Yes, I believe there will be three sixes tattooed on foreheads and right hands. . . indeed I do. I believe John 3:16. I believe God literally loved, literally gave, Jesus literally came and literally died. Why should I not believe the number of the Beast will be 666? (Oliver Greene, *The Revelation, Verse by Verse*, 1963, p. 350)

Mark Hitchcock, *The Complete Book of Bible Prophecy*, 1999

This passage [Rev 13:16-18] provides five key clues as to the interpretation of the mark of the Beast.

- The name of the beast
- The number representing his name
- The number of the Beast
- The number of a man
- The number is 666

When these five clues are followed through their logical progression, the number or mark of the Beast is the number of a man who is the Antichrist or final world ruler. This number is the number of the Antichrist's own name. (Mark Hitchcock, *The Complete Book of Bible Prophecy*, 1999, p.202)

Dave Hunt, How Close Are We?, 1993

A tiny computer chip painlessly and quickly implanted just under the skin in hand or forehead will likely become the means of fulfilling this prophecy [Rev 13] (Dave Hunt, How Close Are We?, 1993, p. 261)

Thomas Ice & Timothy Demy, The Antichrist and His Kingdom, 1996

Although all the specifics and ramifications of the mark are not known, we do know that it will be a symbol of the Antichrist and allegiance to him. The biblical word for mark is similar to our modern tattoo. Just as tattoos were imposed upon victims of the Holocaust, so will similar, permanent marks be given to willing recipients during the tribulation. (Thomas Ice & Timothy Demy, The Antichrist and His Kingdom, 1996, p. 33)

Grant R. Jeffrey, Prince of Darkness, 1994

What kind of mark will it be? It will be a physical mark, probably visible, that the False Prophet will force every man and woman to receive on his right hand or forehead. The mark will be related to both the "name of the beast" as well as the "number of his name" — 666. Possession of the mark will indicate that you willingly worship the "beast". . .

The number 666 indicates that the letters in the Greek form of the name of the Antichrist will add up to 666. There is a slim possibility that his name will equal 666 in the Hebrew language since the Antichrist will be Jewish. The numeric system does not work in English or in languages other than Greek or Hebrew, so it is useless to calculate the values of names in these modern languages. (Grant R. Jeffrey, Prince of Darkness, 1994, pp. 275, 277)

Grant R. Jeffrey, Surveillance Society, 2000

The mark will be a physical, probably visible, mark that the False Prophet will demand every man and woman receive on their right hand or forehead. The Mark will be related to both the "name of the beast" and the "number of his name" — "666". It will indicate that the individual willingly worships the "beast" the satanic Antichrist.(Grant R. Jeffrey, Surveillance Society, 2000, p. 233)

The totalitarian control will involve "the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name." All three of these identifying marks may be used either simultaneously or at different times to identify the worshippers of the Antichrist from those who reject his claims to be god...(Grant R. Jeffrey, Surveillance Society, 2000, p. 238)

This mark must be something different from the name or the number 666 because scriptures, including Revelation 13:18, mention all three as separate items. We are not told the exact nature of the Mark, but it may be a physical brand on the surface of the skin including either the actual name of the Antichrist or the number 666. The Mark may also be implanted as a miniature computer micro chip beneath the skin of the right hand or forehead.(Grant R. Jeffrey, Surveillance Society, 2000, p. 238)

Jerry Johnston, The Last Days of Planet Earth, 1991

The number 666 will be a finance number, perhaps invisibly tattooed on every person's right hand or forehead. (Jerry Johnston, The Last Days of Planet Earth, 1991, p.135)

Salem Kirban, Satan's Mark Exposed, 1978

One day in the Tribulation Period you will need proper identification to withdraw or deposit money in your bank. The identification will be an invisible mark either on the back of your hand or on your forehead! (Salem Kirban, Satan's Mark Exposed, p.46)

. . . the Social security number will become your identification number. It will be prefixed by 666 and quite possibly followed by your own personal zip code. (Salem Kirban, Satan's Mark Exposed, p.60)

The Government knows you by a number. Your most universal number is now your Social Security Number. Quite conceivably it could be the Mark. Technology is already here whereby the Social Security Number could be painlessly imprinted on your forehead or right hand in invisible ink revealed only by a special light. (Salem Kirban, Satan's Mark Exposed, p.72)

The MARK will be a "harmless" and "invisible" Laser Beam applied mark. You will have the choice of having the Mark placed on your right hand or on your forehead! (Salem Kirban, Satan's Mark Exposed, p.99)

What this identifying mark will be . . . the Lord has not desired to make clear to us at this time. Nor can we know at this time the identity of Antichrist. It may be the number "666" which is the number of man. . . (Salem Kirban, Satan's Mark Exposed, 1978, p. 123)

Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins, Are We Living in the End Times?, 1999

One of the best known prophecies of the Tribulation is that the "Beast," or Antichrist, will have the ability to put his mark "666" on the forehead or hand of the world's people. . . Revelation 13:13-18 teaches that after the midpoint of the Tribulation, all men and women will be ordered to bow down before the image of the Beast and worship him. Those who do will receive "a mark. . . on their foreheads" that is "the name of the beast, or the number of his name" — later identified as 666. (Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins, Are We Living in the End Times?, 1999, pp. 195,196)

Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins, The Mark: The Beast Rules the World, 2000

"The first page of your folders. . . is a listing of the ten world regions and a corresponding number. It is the product of a mathematical equation that identifies those regions and their relationships to His Excellency the Potentate [Anti-Christ]. The loyalty mark, . . . shall begin with these numbers, thus identifying the home region of every citizen. The subsequent numbers, embedded on a biochip inserted under the skin, will further identify the person to the point where every one shall be unique. . . The mark shall consist of the name of His Excellency or the prescribed number". (Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins, The Mark: The Beast Rules the World, 2000, p. 85)

"'We have settled on the technology,' Viv continued. 'The miniature biochip with the suffix numbers embedded in it can be inserted as painlessly as a vaccination in a matter of seconds. Citizens may

chose either location, and visible will be a thin, half-inch scar, and to its immediate left, in six-point black ink — impossible to remove under penalty of law — the number that designates the home region of the individual. That number may be included in the embedded chip, should the person prefer that one of the variations of the name of the potentate appear on their flesh.'

'Variations?' someone asked.

'Yes. Most, we assume, will prefer the understated numbers next to the thin scar. But they may also choose from the small initials — no bigger than the numbers — NJC The first or last name may be used, including one version of Nicolae [Anti-Christ] that would virtually cover the left side of the forehead.'" (Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins, *The Mark: The Beast Rules the World*, 2000, p. 86)

"In a few moments you will be led to the central building, where you will tell the staff whether you want your loyalty mark on your forehead or your right hand. The area you choose will then be disinfected with an alcohol solution. When it is your turn, you will enter a cubicle, where you will sit and be injected with a biochip, while simultaneously tattooed with the prefix 216, which identifies you as a citizen of the United Carpathian States. The application takes just seconds.'" (Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins, *The Mark: The Beast Rules the World*, 2000, p. 285)

"David could barely take his eyes off the small black tattoo that read 30 and was followed by a half-inch pick scar [where the biochip was implanted] that would fade to a darker line in a few days." (Tim LaHaye and Jerry Jenkins, *The Mark: The Beast Rules the World*, 2000, p.352)

Peter Lalonde, One World Under Anti-Christ, 1991

In fact, the microchips currently used in "smart cards" could easily fulfill the definition of "the mark" which will be issued under the Antichrist regime. (Peter Lalonde, *One World Under Anti-Christ*, 1991, p. 229)

Peter & Paul Lalonde, Racing Toward The Mark of the Beast, 1994

[referring to the Mark VI Personal Identity Verifier, which reads the biometrics characteristics of the hand to verify identification] — The student of Bible prophecy will not only be interested in the name of this device [Mark] but in the fact that its developers have decided to record both hands in case of injury. The Bible may well have been foretelling just such a precaution when it referred to 'marking' the right hand or forehead. (Peter & Paul Lalonde, *Racing Toward The Mark of the Beast*, 1994, p. 77)

Clarence Larkin, Dispensational Truth, 1918

The "Mark" will be BRANDED or burnt on. It will probably be the "NUMBER OF BEAST" OR "666". (Clarence Larkin, *Dispensational Truth*, p.. 124, published 1918)

Hal Lindsey, The Late Great Planet Earth, 1970

Everyone will be given a tattoo or mark on either his forehead or forehead, only if he swears allegiance to the Dictator as being God. Symbolically, this mark will be 666. (Hal Lindsey, *The Late Great Planet Earth*, 1970, p.101)

Hal Lindsey, The 1980's: Countdown to Armageddon, 1980

Those worshippers will each be assigned a trade number. Without that number, on one will be permitted to buy or sell anything (Revelation 13:16-17). . . The only safeguard would be to tattoo the number on your skin with an ink that could be seen only in a special light. . . The anti-Christ, with the help of his false prophet, will require that a number representing his name become part of your own banking number to make it valid. (Hal Lindsey, The 1980's: Countdown to Armageddon, 1980, pp. 110,111,112)

Betty Lynn, Pathways to Armageddon, 1992

The prince... will exclude everyone who does not have an approved cashless account. Because of the importance of that account to daily existence and to protect it from theft, account information will be bio-implanted, leaving a small mark on the hand or temple. (Betty Lynn, Pathways to Armageddon, 1992, p.47)

Texe Marris, Mystery Mark of the New Age, 1988

Could a microchip be programmed with the number of the Beast and be inserted under a person's skin? And what of the bar code? Could the laser be used to 'brand' people with the Mark?

In light of the meaning of the Biblical word 'mark' as used in Revelation 13, I do not see this as a viable possibility. For one thing, I believe the coming New Age World Leader will promote the Mark as a spiritual status symbol that people will proudly covet. It will be a Mark of distinction. Like the commercial for a well-known credit card says, you wouldn't want to leave home without it! To hide or somehow make the Mark indistinguishable would defeat its purpose. (Texe Marris, Mystery Mark of the New Age, 1988, p. 38)

Texe Marris, Project L.U.C.I.D., 1996

Will the implantable biochip, linked in with L.U.C.I.D. worldwide control net, become the basis for the mysterious, but diabolical, Mark of the Beast? It seems possible, even likely, that this will prove to be the case. (Texe Marris, Project L.U.C.I.D., 1996, p.113)

Robert Mounce, The Book of Revelation, 1977

The mark is identified as the name of the beast written in its numerical equivalent. It is not the name of the beast or the number of his name that is stamped on his followers. The mark is the number of the name... the number of the beast stamped upon his followers was 666. (Robert Mounce, The Book of Revelation, 1977, p. 263)

Naked, a movie Directed by Mike Leigh, starring David Thewlis, 1993

What is the mark? Well the mark Brian, is the barcode. The ubiquitous barcode that you'll find on every bog roll, and every packet of johnny's and every poxie-pot pie. And every [expletive-removed] barcode is divided into two parts by three markers and those three markers are always represented by the number six. Six-six-six. Now what does it say? No one shall be able to buy or sell without that

mark. And now what they're planning to do in order to eradicate all credit card fraud and in order to precipitate a totally cashless society. What they're planning to do; what they've already tested on the American troops; they're going to subcutaneously laser tattoo that mark onto your right hand or onto your forehead.

B.J. Oropeza, 99 Reasons Why No One Knows When Christ Will Return, 1994

If the antichrist had lived in the first century, he could have easily fulfilled Revelation 13:16-18 by ordering a tattoo or branding-iron mark placed on everyone. Such primitive means would suffice to carry out the Beast's job. Of course, computers and electronic networks would allow an antichrist today to keep tabs on everyone more easily than a first-century antichrist could have done. So inventions like the biochip give us a better explanation of how the mark of the Beast could be implemented, but they do not necessarily herald the mark of the Beast.

There is no evidence that any candidate for the mark of the Beast is in fact the mark. (B.J. Oropeza, 99 Reasons Why No One Knows When Christ Will Return, 1994, pp. 165,166)

J. Dwight Pentecost, Prophecy for Today, 1961

I confess that I don't know what this number means. I am certain, however, that there are more than 666 interpretations. Everyone seems to have an opinion. Since God doesn't explain the meaning, apparently it's not important for us to know. Before this person comes to prominence believers will have been translated into God's presence. We will not have the slightest interest in the Beast or the False Prophet because we will be occupied with the Lord Jesus Christ in glory.

The reason God gave us any information at all, I believe, is so that believers alive in that day will have a clear identifying sign that the one in world power is Satan's masterpiece. (J. Dwight Pentecost, Prophecy for Today, 1961, p.114)

Arthur W. Pink, The Antichrist, 1923

This "mark" will be the official sign of allegiance to the Emperor stamped either upon the hand or forehead of his loyal subjects. It will be the satanic travesty of the "seal" which the angel will stamp on "the foreheads of God's servants" (7:3). This "mark" on the persons of the subjects of the Beast will be, we believe, the name of the Devil, (cf. Rev. 13:4), as the seal on the foreheads of God's servants is defined in 14:1 as "having their Father's name written on their foreheads". (Arthur W. Pink, The Antichrist, 1923, p. 200)

Mary Stewart Relfe, When Your Money Fails...The "666" System" is Here, 1981

"And he causeth all . . . to receive a mark . . ." In Greek this word mark is charagma, which literally denotes a stamp, an impress, and is translated mark. Notice that John did not say that he causeth all to receive a number in the right hand or forehead. This astute prophet could have certainly delineated between a series of numbers, and an unexplained stamp or mark. . .

The same Electronic Eye which scans the UPC marks [barcodes] will in the near future scan the marks that will be required to be inserted on the body. . .

While some specifics remain vague, of this we are certain: All commerce will be conducted in the near future with a number, a name, or an identifying mark in the hand or forehead. It is my sincere deduction that the 'mark of the beast' will not be the insertion of numbers per se on the body, but of vertical lines which will represent encoded messages and digits. (Mary Stewart Relfe, *When Your Money Fails...The "666" System" is Here*, 1981, pp. 56,57,58)

Mary Stewart Relfe, *The New Money System 666*, 1982

The Prophet John identified this Cashless System of Commerce 1900 years ago as one in which business would be transacted with a 'Mark' and a Number; the Mark will obviously be a Bar Code; the Number will be '666;' the combination of the two, about which you will read in this book, will be an integral part of the '666 System' . . .

RECEIVING OF ONE'S OWN VOLITION THE MARK (BRAND) IN THE RIGHT HAND OR FOREHEAD; which I believe will be a Bar Code facsimile incorporating a concealed use of '666,' unintelligible to the eye, . . . (Mary Stewart Relfe, *The New Money System 666*, 1982, pp. xii, 206)

A.T. Robertson, *Word Pictures in the New Testament*, 1930

The stamp (the mark) may bear either the name or the number of the beast. The name and the number are one and the same. They could write the name in numerals, for numbers were given by letters. Swete suggests that it was "according to a sort of gematria known to the Apocalypticist and his Asian readers, but not generally intelligible."

Joseph Seiss, *The Apocalypse*, 1865

The "mark" itself is at once a number and a name. The Apostle tells us what it is. As he gives it, it is made up of two Greek characters which stand for the name of Christ, with a third, the figure of a crooked serpent, put between them, the name of God's Messiah transformed into a Devil sacrament. (Joseph Seiss, *The Apocalypse*, 1865, p. 457)

Strong's Exhaustive Concordance of the Bible, 1894

5480 charagma, khar'-ag-mah; from the same as 5482 (charax) a scratch or etching, i.e. stamp (as a badge of servitude), or sculptured figure (statue): — graven, mark.

Unger's Bible Dictionary, 1957

The mark (Gr. charagma, stamp) is to be stamped on the right hand or the forehead as the badge of the followers of Antichrist. (Unger's Bible Dictionary, 1957, p. 695)

Jack Van Impe, *Dictionary of Prophecy Terms*

It is likely that the Image of the Beast, a forth-coming master computer, will give Antichrist all the information necessary for him to govern the world. It's memory bank will know the number, record, and history of every living person. Perhaps this number would be composed of an international, national, and area computer code plus an individual number, such as one's social security number. The present international computer code is "6" . . . it could easily be expanded to "666." (Jack Van Impe, *Dictionary of Prophecy Terms*, "Mark of the Beast".)

Robert Van Kampen, The Sign, 1992

We do not know how the mark will be imprinted on the hand or the forehead. Given modern technology, however, there are numerous ways this could be accomplished. A tiny microchip, for example, could be imbedded just under the skin in the palm of the hand...it seems unlikely that the mark would be a series of numbers crudely branded on the hand or forehead, but it will be a mark nonetheless that clearly identifies the man with either the name of the beast or the number of his (Antichrist's) name. (Robert Van Kampen, The Sign, 1992, p. 231)

Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words, 1985

1. charagma denotes "a stamp, impress" translated "mark" in Rev. 13:16, 17, etc. See GRAVEN. (Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words, p. 393)

charagma, from charasso, "to engrave" (akin to charakter, "an impress," RV, marg., of Heb. 1:3), denotes (a) "a mark" or "stamp," e.g., Rev 13:16, 17; 14:9, 11; 16:2; 19:20; 20:4; 15:2 in some mss.; (b) "a thing graven," Acts 17:29. (Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words, 1985, p. 279)

John Wesley's Explanatory Notes on the Whole Bible

But he that had the mark, namely, the name of the first beast, or the number of his name - The name of the beast is that which he bears through his whole duration; namely, that of Papa or Pope: the number of his name is the whole time during which he bears this name. Whosoever, therefore, receives the mark of the beast does as much as if he said expressly, "I acknowledge the present Papacy, as proceeding from God;" or, "I acknowledge that what St. Gregory VII. has done, according to his legend, (authorized by Benedict XIII..) and what has been maintained in virtue thereof, by his successors to this day, is from God." By the former, a man hath the name of the beast as a mark; by the latter, the number of his name. In a word, to have the name of the beast is, to acknowledge His papal Holiness; to have the number of his name is, to acknowledge the papal succession. The second beast will enforce the receiving this mark under the severest penalties. (John Wesley, Explanatory Notes on the Whole Bible, Revelation 13:17)

Warren Wiersbe, Be Victorious, 1985

Everybody (except believers; 20:4) will receive a special mark in order to buy or sell; but the only way to get that mark is to submit to "the beast" and worship him. . .

This special mark is the name or number of "the beast" — the mystical 666. (Warren Wiersbe, Be Victorious, 1985, pp. 107, 108)

Allen Woodham, South East Christian Witness Newsletter, 1996

In this soon-coming CASHLESS ELECTRONIC DEBIT system, no one will be able to BUY OR SELL anything, anywhere without the New World Order global biochip "MARK" in their right hands or foreheads (the mark of the beast) (Allen Woodham, South East Christian Witness Newsletter, Feb 1996, p 6)

THE RISE OF RFID CHIP TECHNOLOGY

A careful examination of the mark of the beast does reveal the following:

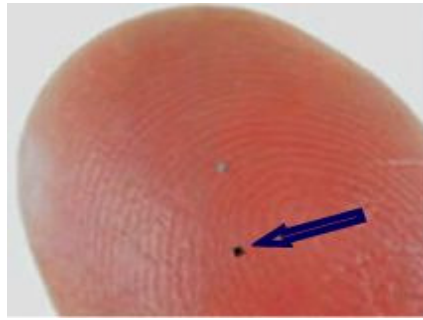
1. Scripture says it is a physical mark that is placed on or in the right hand or the forehead of the one who receives it.
2. It is used to buy or sell material goods in the economies of the world, and it's rather obvious that the world is slowly working its way to such a system. This mark appears to be clearly linked to the physical, material realm, but it does have spiritual ramifications because of its connection to the name and number of the antichrist. To relegate the mark to JUST the spiritual realm strongly indicates the work of an active imagination explaining away the simple words of Scripture: it is used to buy and sell material goods. If one spiritualizes the mark in Revelation 13, then one must also spiritualize the buying and selling. There would have to be a transformation of some sort, to change it from a physical mark needed to buy and sell to a non-physical mark that would only be spiritually recognized and yet be used to buy and sell. There is no such transformation or evolution of such a mark in Scripture.

RFID, or Radio Frequency Identification, is a new technology somewhat analogous to UPC barcodes but with a very intriguing twist. It does not require physical scanning but rather transmits identifying information using radio signal waves (hence the name). Passive RFID tags actually operate without any external power source - astonishingly, their minimum power requirements are so low that they can actually be powered by the radio signal itself.

Will this technology take hold? Wal-Mart, the world's largest retailer, has mandated that all its suppliers provide RFID tags on their shipping containers. If they refuse to tag their items using RFID technology then they'll lose Wal-Mart as their supplier. Quite an incentive to participate.

A U.S. company, Applied Digital Solutions (ADS), has recently created a chip they refer to as a "sub-dermal credit card". Touted as "being chipped", a chip as small as a grain of sand can be injected into the right arm between the elbow and the shoulder. ADS foresees a day when ATM cards and credit cards will be replaced by these new devices and is actively seeking partnerships with banking and credit companies to team up and develop commercial applications using the chip. No longer would a person need to swipe a card to buy or sell goods but would rather simply agree to the business deal and let the RFID technology complete the transaction. The global corporation Visa has branded its RFID chipped cards as Paywave and MasterCard as Paypass.

The technology is proven in real world use too - RFID chipping has been used to tag animals, cattle and household pets, for over 10 years now and Exxon is currently using RFID technology attached to key-rings to provide wireless gas station transaction processing. The world's smallest and thinnest RFID tags were introduced in 2007 by Hitachi. Tiny miracles of miniaturization, these RFID chips (Radio Frequency Identification chips) measure just 0.05 x 0.05 millimeters. The previous record-holder, the Hitachi mu-chip, is just 0.4 x 0.4 millimeters as seen below



However the new "powder type" tags generated by Hitachi are some sixty times smaller with a 128-bit ROM for storing a unique 38 digit number, like their predecessor. Hitachi use semiconductor miniaturization technology and electron beams to write data on the chip substrates to achieve the new, smaller size.

Liz McIntyre is a consumer privacy expert and co-author of a series of books about the societal implications of microchip tracking technology, including *Spychips: 'How Major Corporations and Government Plan to Track your Every Purchase and Watch Your Every Move'*. This explosive book reveals how organizations like Procter & Gamble, Wal-Mart, Gillette, and even the U.S. Government are deploying tiny computer chips that can keep close tabs on everyday objects—and even people.

In the updated version of their controversial book on RFID, *The Sychips Threat: 'Why Christians Should Resist RFID and Electronic Surveillance'*, Katherine Albrecht and Liz McIntyre, two leading advocates for consumer privacy, believe the master plan by government and corporations to embed RFID chips in our passports, drivers' licenses, various consumer products or even our bodies is leading to the apocalyptic future prophesized in the Bible.

So the technology is here but how could it possibly be forced upon people? Would the pressure to comply be enough (driver's licenses are not required but practically everyone has one since it's needed to drive and to conduct banking transactions). Or will it simply be aggressively marketed to encourage adoption? Many in government have begun debating just such a plan. They point out that by requiring every citizen to accept this digital, embedded method of payment we could eradicate all commerce in illegal activities. Consider this - with every payment definitively tied to your person and digitally recorded so that the transaction is traceable - how could prostitution, buying and selling of stolen goods, or purchase of illegal drugs be conducted. Additionally, theft of credit cards and identity theft would be significantly minimized. The externally portrayed idea being that just such a plan would be perfect to "better our economic methods" and to "make the world a better place to live in".

However there is a dark side to the technology development of microchip implantation. In September 2007 shares in Applied Digital Solutions and its publicly traded subsidiary VeriChip, which makes an implanted microchip for identifying people, fell sharply as investors reacted to a report linking the tiny radio device to cancer. The radio identification device for which VeriChip is named is a glass-encased chip the size of a grain of rice. The device, which carries an encrypted number, is injected in the upper arm. In medical applications, the chip is linked to medical records stored at hospitals or with a primary-care physician. A low-powered transmitter in the chip emits the identification number when queried at close range by a VeriChip scanner.



VeriChip has demonstrated that the same chip could also be linked to other databases. For example, nightclubs have used it to recognize regular visitors and Mexican police have used it to control access to a high-security office.

When the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved implanting microchips in humans, VeriChip said it would save lives, letting doctors scan the tiny transponders to access patients' medical records almost instantly. The FDA found "reasonable assurance" the device was safe, and a sub-agency even called it one of 2005's top "innovative technologies." But neither the company nor the regulators publicly mentioned that a series of veterinary and toxicology studies, dating to the mid-1990s, stated that chip implants had "induced" malignant tumors in some lab mice and rats.



In September 2007 The Associated Press finally issued a breaking story revealing that VeriChip microchip implants had induced cancer in laboratory animals and dogs. The series of research articles spanning more than a decade found that mice and rats injected with glass-encapsulated RFID transponders developed malignant, fast-growing, lethal cancers in up to 1% to 10% of cases. The tumors originated in the tissue surrounding the microchips and often grew to completely surround the devices, the researchers said.

A four-month Associated Press investigation turned up additional documents, several of which had been published before VeriChip's parent company, Applied Digital Solutions, sought FDA approval to market the implant for humans. The VeriChip received FDA approval in 2004 under the watch of then Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson who later joined the company's board.

The report, by The Associated Press, suggested that VeriChip and federal regulators had ignored or overlooked animal studies raising questions about whether the chip or the process of injecting it might cause cancer in dogs and laboratory rodents.

VeriChip said that it had not been aware of the studies cited in the report, according to the article, but both the company and federal regulators said yesterday that animal data had been considered in the review of the application to implant the chips in humans. They said that there were no controlled scientific studies linking the chips to cancer in dogs or cats and that lab rodents were more prone than humans or other animals to developing tumors from all types of injections.

Revelation makes reference to a future period of time when a plague of sores will come upon those who have taken the Mark of the Beast and this shocking global medical outbreak could be a result of these early trial studies which relate the implantation of microchips to causing cancer.

Scott Silverman the, CEO of VeriChip, at first denied any knowledge of such tests, stating: "(the VeriChip company) was not aware of any studies that have resulted in malignant tumors in mice or rats, and certainly not cats or dogs." Later, however, Silverman admitted certain studies were "omitted from the sheaf of studies included in the FDA application (for approval)," as Sobhean Morissy paraphrased in his article "Are Microchip Tags Safe?" It might be asked, what else might Mr. Silverman have concealed from the FDA?

Since the reports have come out, Mr. Silverman has been caught in a tangle of misstatements and VeriChip has gone down hard and fast. Over the past year the company lost more than 11 million dollars and its stock has dropped from over 10.47 dollars a share to less than two. "VeriChip's media efforts have done little to salvage the company's public image or its financial performance, both of which plummeted after research linking the implantable microchip to cancer was first widely revealed," Dr. Albrecht reported. "The same company that once predicted revenues in the 'billions' earned just \$3,000 from its microchip implant operations in the first quarter of 2008"

On July 21 2008, the true victory came. VeriChip sold its Xmark division of the company that comprised its main enterprise to Stanley Canada Company for \$47.9 million. Xmark's product line provides external RFID active tags for the healthcare market. Though this may seem like a lot, with over \$24 million going to pay off debt and another \$15 million allotted as dividends for shareholders, the company has made a minimal profit in comparison with its hopes. Mr. Silverman has stepped down as CEO, and the parent corporation, Digital Angel, has taken over what is left of the company.

VeriChip has now revealed plans to sell its VeriMed Health Link business — the Health Link division carries the implantable chips. The rest of the company is also for sale. For the moment the substantial financial losses suffered by VeriChip tells us that the voice of the people has been heard.

FOOTNOTES

1. This view is known as the pre-millennial view of the end times. One in which Jesus Christ will return to earth and establish a millennial reign of 1000 years in a literal interpretation of Revelation 20:6.

Postmillennialists generally see the millennial kingdom as a "golden age" ushered in by the church through the triumph of the gospel, not only in bringing individuals to salvation, but also in dominating culture. In this view, Christ's return is at the culmination (conclusion) of this millennial age, hence the name post-millennial.

Amillennialists believe that the "thousand years" of Revelation 20 is a figurative number indicating the whole period between Jesus' resurrection and his return (i.e. the current church age). In this view Christ now reigns and rules from heaven in and through the church bringing people into the kingdom of God through the preaching of the gospel.

2. Crooked Serpent (Isaiah 27:1), The proud man who enlargeth his desires as hell, and is as death, and cannot be satisfied, but gathereth unto him all nations, and heapeth unto him all peoples (Habbakuk 2:5), The Mighty Man (Psalms 52:1), The Adversary who shall break Israel's strength and spoil her palaces (Amos 3:11), The head over Many Countries (Psalms 110:6), Destroyer of the Gentiles (Jeremiah 4:7), The King of Babylon (Isaiah 30:31-33), The profane wicked Prince of Israel (Ezekiel 21:25), The one who would come in his own name (John 5:43), The Man of Sin and The Son of Perdition (II Thessalonians 2:7)

3. Orthodox Judaism views itself as the continuation of the beliefs and practices of normative Judaism, as accepted by the Jewish nation at Mt. Sinai and codified in successive generations in an ongoing process that continues to this day. Orthodox Judaism believes that both the Written and Oral Torah are of divine origin, and represent the word of G-d. This is similar to the view of the Conservative movement, but the Orthodox movement holds that such information (except for scribal errors) is the exact word of God and does not represent any human creativity or influence. For the Orthodox, the term "Torah" refers to the "Written Law" as interpreted by the "Oral Law," interpreted in turn by the Rishonim (Medieval commentators), and eventually codified in the Codice.

The Talmud in contrast is a collection of man-made interpretations of the Pentateuch (Genesis through Deuteronomy) against which Jesus railed so intensely. The Talmud was taught as being equal with God's inspired Word, even though the practical effect of its teachings were so often the exact opposite of what God had intended. The teachings within the Talmud are saturated with Babylonian and Masonic belief systems and are today wrongly interpreted and confused as being sacred Jewish scripture equivalent to the Torah.

4. Joseph Chambers is a bible prophecy scholar who supported the view that Babylon would be rebuilt and become the capital of the coming antichrist Kingdom. However Chambers did not infer that Hussein would be the antichrist but rather a pawn orchestrating the rebuilding of Babylon. Many of the books and literature regarding Saddam Hussein being the antichrist are no longer in existence as many ministries withdrew such content when it became obviously clear that Saddam was not the antichrist and especially after his overthrow in 2003.

5. In Jack Van Impe's 11:59 and Counting on Page 57-60 he quotes from the Epistle of Barnabas, the Jewish Talmud and Archbishop James Ussher regarding the year 1997 – 2000 AD as the climax of the ages.

The late Barry Smith in his book "I Spy With My Little Eye" writes on page 8, "By the 1st January 2000, the economy as we know it today, will cease to exist!" Then again on page 2, "The author is racing to finish this book and get it out to the public before 31st December 1999. Why? Because within a period of two months (Nov/December 1999), nobody will be buying books as the Old Word (sic) Order comes to a close and the New World Order commences on the 1st January 2000." On pages 103, 107 and 116 we read, "The New World Order, announced by Skull and Bones member, ex-U.S. President George Bush, commences at 12:01 a.m., 1st January 2000", "Welcome to the New World Order" and "The bubble will burst at the end of 1999. Smith also had believed that Henry Kissinger was the antichrist.

6. The early church fathers fall into three basic categories, Apostolic Fathers, Ante-Nicene Church Fathers and Post-Nicene Church Fathers. The Apostolic Church Fathers were the ones like Clement of Rome who were contemporary with the

Apostles and were probably taught by them, carrying on the tradition and teaching of the Apostles themselves. Linus, mentioned in 2 Timothy 4:21, became the bishop of Rome after Peter was martyred, and Clement took over from Linus. Both Linus and Clement of Rome, therefore, are considered Apostolic Fathers. However, there appear to be no writings of Linus that have survived, while many of the writings of Clement of Rome survived. The actual Apostolic Fathers who were taught by the apostles would have largely all passed from the scene by the beginnings of the second century, except for those few that might have been disciples of John the Apostle, such as Polycarp. John died in Ephesus around 99 A. D.

The Ante-Nicene Fathers were those who were after the Apostolic Fathers and before the Council of Nicea in 325 A. D. Such luminaries as Irenaeus, Ignatius, and Justin Martyr are Ante-Nicene Fathers. After the Council of Nicea in 325 A. D. arose the Church Fathers who are considered Post-Nicene. Here, there are such noted men as Augustine, bishop of Hippo, who is often called the father of the Church (Roman Catholic Church) because of his great work in Church doctrine; Chrysostom, the golden-mouthed, for his excellent oratorical skills; and Eusebius, who wrote a history of the Church from the birth of Jesus to 324 A. D., one year before the Council of Nicea. He is included in the Post-Nicene era since he did not write his history until after the Council of Nicea was held. Other Post-Nicene Fathers were

Jerome, who translated the Greek New Testament into the Latin Vulgate, and Ambrose, who was largely responsible for the emperor Constantine being converted to Christianity

The Apostolic Fathers were very concerned about the proclamation of the Gospel being just as the Apostles themselves proclaimed it. They were not interested in formulating theological doctrine, for the Gospel they had learned from the Apostles was quite sufficient for them as far as orthodoxy was concerned. The Apostolic Fathers were as zealous as the Apostles themselves in rooting out and exposing any false doctrine that began to crop up here and there. The orthodoxy of the message was preserved by the Apostolic Fathers' desire to stay as true to the Gospel taught to them by the Apostles as they possibly could.

The Ante-Nicene Fathers also tried to stay as true to the Gospel they had been taught as possible, but they had an additional worry not present with the Apostolic Fathers. Now there were several spurious writings claiming to have the same weight as established writings from the likes of Paul, Peter, and Luke. The reason for these spurious documents was quite evident, for if the Body of Christ could be persuaded that a false document was the same as a document that was seen as genuine, then the false document would be seen as genuine also. So the Ante-Nicene Fathers begin to spend a lot of their time defending the Christian faith from false doctrine, and this led to the beginnings of the formation of accepted church doctrine.

The Post-Nicene Fathers carried out the mission of the defense of the Gospel against all kinds of heresies and false doctrines, so more and more the Post-Nicene Fathers began to be more interested in the defense of the Gospel and less interested in the transmitting of the Gospel in a true and pure form, which was the hallmark of the Apostolic Fathers. By the time of Augustine, the need to defend against heresies and false doctrines had reached the point that the true doctrine of the Body of Christ was pretty much settled on. This was the age of the theologian who would discuss arcane topics to death, such as "how many angels can dance on the head of a pin."

7. A very good overview of the importance of the early church fathers can be seen at the following website which provides a clear overview of some the early Christian heresies which they battled.

http://www.religionfacts.com/christianity/history/church_fathers.htm

8. Origen taught that God would save everyone and that Mary was a perpetual virgin; Irenaeus believed that the bread and wine became the body and blood of Jesus when consecrated, as did John Chrysostom and Cyril of Jerusalem; Athanasius taught salvation through baptism; Tertullian became a supporter of the Montanist heresies, and a promoter of a New Testament clergy class, as did his disciple Cyprian; Augustine was the principal architect of Catholic dogma that included his support of purgatory, baptismal regeneration, and infant baptism, mortal and venial sins, prayers to the dead, penance for sins, absolution from a priest, the sinlessness of Mary, the Apocrypha as Scripture, etc. It's not that these men got everything wrong; some on certain doctrines, upheld Scripture against the developing unbiblical dogmas of the Roman Catholic Church.

9. The phrase sola scriptura is from the Latin: sola having the idea of "alone," "ground," "base," and the word scriptura meaning "writings" - referring to the Scriptures. Sola scriptura means that Scripture alone is authoritative for the faith and

practice of the Christian. The Bible is complete, authoritative, and true. "All Scripture is 'God breathed' (given of inspiration of God) and is profitable for teaching, reproof, correction, instruction in righteousness..." (2 Timothy 3:16).

Sola scriptura was the rallying cry of the Protestant Reformation. For centuries the Roman Catholic Church had made its traditions superior in authority to the Bible. This resulted in many practices that were in fact contradictory to the Bible. Some examples are prayer to saints and/or Mary, the immaculate conception, transubstantiation, infant baptism, indulgences, and papal authority. Martin Luther, the founder of the Lutheran Church and father of the Protestant Reformation, was publicly rebuking the Catholic Church for its unbiblical teachings. The Catholic Church threatened Martin Luther with excommunication (and death) if he did not recant. Martin Luther's reply was, "Unless therefore I am convinced by the testimony of Scripture, or by the clearest reasoning, - unless I am persuaded by means of the passages I have quoted, - and unless they thus render my conscience bound by the Word of God, I cannot and will not retract, for it is unsafe for a Christian to speak against his conscience. Here I stand, I can do no other; may God help me! Amen!"

The primary Catholic argument against sola scriptura is that the Bible does not explicitly teach sola scriptura. Catholics argue, "the Bible nowhere states that it is the ONLY authoritative guide for faith and practice." While this is true, it fails to recognize a crucially important issue. We know that the Bible is the Word of God. The Bible declares itself to be God-breathed, inerrant, and authoritative. We also know that God does not change His mind or contradict Himself. So, while the Bible itself may not explicitly argue for "sola scriptura," it most definitely does not allow for traditions that contradict its message. Sola scriptura is not as much of an argument against tradition as it is an argument against unbiblical, extra-biblical and/or anti-biblical doctrines. The only way to know for sure what God expects of us is to stay true to what we know He has revealed – the Bible. We can know, beyond the shadow of any doubt, that Scripture is true, authoritative, and reliable. The same cannot be said of tradition.

The Word of God is the only authority for the Christian faith. Traditions are valid only when they are based on Scripture and are in full agreement with Scripture. Traditions that contradict the Bible are not of God and are not a valid aspect of the Christian faith. Sola scriptura is the only way to avoid subjectivity and personal opinion from taking priority over the teachings of the Bible. The essence of sola scriptura is basing your spiritual life on the Bible alone, and rejecting any tradition or teaching that is not in full agreement with the Bible. Second Timothy 2:15 declares, "Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the Word of truth."

10. The writings of the early church fathers can be viewed here <http://www.newadvent.org/fathers>

11. Letter to the Philadelphians 7:1 [A.D. 135].

12. Dialogue with Trypho, Chapter 110.

13. Against Marcion 5:16 [A.D. 210]

14. Against Heresies 5:25:1-2 [A.D. 189]).

15. Catechetical Lectures 15:12 [A.D. 350.

16. The Antichrist 6 [A.D. 200.

17. Divine Institutes 7:17 [A.D. 307]).

18. The mainstream evangelic view is that "the he that letteth" in II Thessalonians 2:7 is the Holy Spirit or the Bride of Christ whom the Spirit indwells.

19. Arianism is the core of the Jehovah Witness teachings on the nature of God. Sabellianism is the core of the Apostolic Church and United Pentecostal teachings on the nature of God which is known as modalism.

20. Hippolytus: (AD. 170-236) states

"As these things, then, are in the future, and as the ten toes of the image are equivalent to (so many) democracies, and the ten horns of the fourth beast are distributed over ten kingdoms, let us look at the subject a little more closely, and consider

these matters as in the clear light of a personal survey. The golden head of the image and the lioness denoted the Babylonians; the shoulders and arms of silver, and the bear, represented the Persians and Medes; the belly and thighs of brass, and the leopard, meant the Greeks, who held the sovereignty from Alexander's time; the legs of iron, and the beast dreadful and terrible, expressed the Romans, who hold the sovereignty at present; the toes of the feet which were part clay and part iron, and the ten horns, were emblems of the kingdoms that are yet to rise; the other little horn that grows up among them meant the Antichrist in their midst; the stone that smites the earth and brings judgment upon the world was Christ." [Treatise on Christ and Antichrist, 27,28].

21. While not as consistently developed as modern futurism, the early church would have to be classified as inconsistent futurists, more than any of the other three possibilities. With a few exceptions, the early church believed that events of the tribulation, millennium, and second coming were to take place in the future.

22. Robert L. Wilkin, "The Piety of the Persecutors." Christian History, Issue 27 (Vol. IX, No. 3), p. 18.

23. Robert L. Wilkin, *ibid.*

24. Tacitus, *Annals*.

25. Tacit. *Annals* XV.

26. History of the Origins of Christianity. Book IV. The Antichrist <http://www.ccel.org/ccel/renan/antichrist.viii.html>

27. Tacitus' *Annals* XV.

28. For an understanding of the development and history of Gematria see <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gematria>

29. Tacitus II.

30. The International Preterist Association can be accessed here. <http://www.preterist.org/>

31. See here for further insight into Partial Preterism http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partial_preterism

32. The sources of Commodianus's information were the Bible — principally the Apocalypse, the Prophets, and the Fourth Book of Esdras — the Sibylline oracles, Tertullian, Minucius Felix, Cyprian, and Lactantius. From Terence, Lucretius, Horace, Cicero, and most of all from Virgil, he borrows modes of expression. His theology is not reliable; besides Millenarianism, he seems to profess Monarchianism and Patripassianism, two heresies in regard to the Trinity. His language is not only crude, but incorrect, and it would be a mistake to seek in Commodianus the origin of versification based on accent. His works are a collection of "Instructions" and a "Carmen apologeticum"

33. Irenaeus: *Against Heresies*, Book V, XXX.

34. A detailed history of the Waldneses can be seen here <http://www.reformedreader.org/history/wylie/toc.htm>

35. Thomas Armitage, *A History of the Baptists*, I, 1890, pp. 311,12.

36. Smalcald Articles 2:4:10, 14.

37. The Westminster Confession of Faith is a Reformed confession of faith, in the Calvinist theological tradition. Although drawn up by the 1646 Westminster Assembly, largely of the Church of England, it became and remains the 'subordinate standard' of doctrine in the Church of Scotland, and has been influential within Presbyterian churches worldwide. The *Creeeds of Christendom*, vol. 3, at the Christian Classics Ethereal Library.

38. This Historicist interpretation was favoured by many of the great writers, thinkers and preachers of the historic Christian church since the Reformation of the 16th century. While the earliest Reformers, like Martin Luther and John Calvin, did interpret prophecy according to a historicist framework, they retained the interpretation of "the thousand years" of Revelation 20, known today as, "Amillennialism," that was promoted at that time by the Roman Catholic Church. From the late 16th century until the 20th century, the historicist interpretation of prophecy, coupled with a "Premillennial"

view of Revelation 20, was common among Bible-believing Protestants around the globe. That particular brand of end-times beliefs, called, "Premillennial Historicism," was accompanied by a great surge in world missions, the founding of many mission-minded Bible institutes and colleges, and a wealth of creative and doctrinally sound literature engaging the issues of the times. Some of the most influential men who shared the premillennial historicist interpretation, and lived during this period, included Henry Grattan Guinness, A. J. Gordon, Charles H. Spurgeon and A. B. Simpson. A full insight into the Historicist school of interpretation can be found at <http://www.historicism.com>

39. *The Great Controversy, chapter on "The Waldenses",*

40. <http://www.seventh-day.org/sda-papacy.htm> provides significant detail on a major internal debate within the Seventh Day Adventist Movement as some of its top leaders have made significant attempts to rebuild bridges with the Roman Catholic Church. In 2000 a major release was published by the Seventh Day Adventist global headquarters in Warsaw Poland regarding Catholicism's revised view of the movement. Recognizing each other's autonomy and independence, the document was issued following 15 years of dialogue aimed at better understanding of the teachings and practice of the Catholic and the Adventist Churches, as well as improving relations without compromising each other's identity.

41. *A Woman Rides The Beast, Dave Hunt.*

42. While not as consistently developed as modern futurism, the early church would have to be classified as inconsistent futurists, more than any of the other three possibilities. With a few exceptions, the early church believed that events of the tribulation, millennium, and second coming were to take place in the future. As anti-millennial views began to arise in the third century, and the Christianization of the Roman Empire through Constantine spread in the fourth century, futurism began to be displaced. As the fourth century turned into the fifth, Jerome and Augustine's influence against futurism drove it underground during the thousand-year era of medievalism. But there remained during this time pockets of futurist interpretation scattered throughout a number of the groups who refused to come under Roman Catholic authority. Further, there have been discoveries of medieval apocalypticism during this time which wrote from varying degrees of futurism.

The Reformation brought a return to a study of the sources. In Northern Europe those sources included the early church writers and aided in a renewal of the study of prophecy from a futurist perspective within the Roman Catholic and then the Protestant churches. The Jesuit, Francisco Ribera (1537-1591) was one of the first to revive an undeveloped form of futurism around 1580. Because of the dominance of historicism, futurism made virtually no headway in Protestantism until the 1820's through Church of England scholar S. R. Maitland in 1826. In the late 1820s, futurism began to gain converts and grow in the British Isles, often motivated by a revived interest in God's plan for Israel, during which time it gained one of its most influential converts in John Nelson Darby. Through Darby and other Brethren expositors, futurism spread to America and throughout the evangelical world. The last one hundred years have seen for the first time, the full development of consistent futurism. This has led in turn to the formulation of dispensationalism and a clearer understanding of the pretribulational rapture of the church.

43. *A History Of The Franks, by Gregory Tours, Translated by Lewis Thorpe.*

44. *Charlemagne, Derek Wilson.*

45. *A History Of Medieval Political Thought, 300-1450, Joseph Canning.*

46. *The Second Messiah (96:79-83), Knight and Robert Lomas.*

47. *Searching for the Real Jesus in an Age of Controversy (Harvest House) by Dr. Douglas Groothuis is an excellent introduction to radical, feminist, and New Age attempts to rewrite Church history and undermine the Christian understanding of Jesus Christ. Written for a popular audience, it contains helpful information about Gnosticism and the "Gnostic Jesus." It is currently out of print, but used copies can be found on abebooks.com. Also, several of Dr. Groothuis's articles on Gnosticism and its modern "rebirth" are available online:*

48. JR Church Church, whose ministry is national and world wide through the Internet, has authored many books. Among those books are, Hidden Prophecies in the Psalms, published first in 1986, and then revised in 1990; Guardians of the Grail: And the Men Who Plan to Rule the World, 1989; They Pierced The Veil, 1993; Hidden Prophecies in the Song Of Moses, 1999; The Mystery Of The Menorah written with Gary Stearman, 1999; On the Eve of Adam: God's Ancient Plan for Lucifer's Defeat, 2001; Guardians of the Grail: And the Men Who Plan to Rule the World. Guardians of the Grail explores the legend of the Holy Grail and the kings who claim to be connected with it. It links the Knights Templar, Priory of Sion, the Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, House of Theosophy, and modern Mormonism. The book also discusses the way that mankind will be deceived into accepting worldwide enslavement under the guise of "peace and prosperity" in the person of the Antichrist and his establishment.

49. Godfrey, Duke of Lower Lorraine, was one of the leaders of the First Crusade. When the Pope issued his summons to the Crusade, Godfrey joined the French knights leaving for the Holy Land, together with his brother Baldwin. In order to finance his expenses, he mortgaged his entire property. His army was made up of Walloons, Flemings, and Germans. On July 15, 1099, his soldiers were the first to break through to Jerusalem, and took part in the subsequent massacre of the Jewish and Muslim residents of the city. On July 22, he was named ruler of Jerusalem. This choice, in which Godfrey de Bouillon was preferred to Raymond de Saint-Giles, was the best solution to the problem faced by the conquerors of Jerusalem, who had to decide the status of Jerusalem's ruler, and to whom he would be subject. Thus, Godfrey was awarded the title of "Defender of the Holy Sepulchre." For the rest of the single year in which he held this title, Godfrey managed to extend the boundaries of the Crusader state and to lay the foundations of its organization. After his one year of rule, he died and was buried in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

50. The Paneuropa, currently headed by Otto Habsburg, was founded in 1923 by Richard Nikolaus Count Coudenhove-Kalergi. It is credited with some influence over the creation of what is now the European Union. Paneuropa is, unsurprisingly, more active in Austria and the former Austro-Hungarian states. It is very anti-Communist and Christian Democratic in political orientation, with a strong Catholic influence. The flag of the Paneuropa Movement, as seen on the main square in Zagreb, in the house of Croatian Council of European Movement, an organization that is promoting the European idea, is similar to the flag of the European Union with a yellow disc with a red cross on it placed inside the ring of stars. The cross is the symbol of Christendom and the sun symbolizes the European civilization enlightening the world. After the Second World War, the flag was used by the European Parliamentary Union.

51. http://80.78.71.243/cedi/Eng_Main.aspx

52. See the book called Uncrowned Emperor, The Life and Times of Otto Van Habsburg for greater detail of his role throughout the 20th century.

53. Institute For The Study of Globalization and Covert Politics <http://www.isgp.eu/intro.htm>

54. The Social Order of Tomorrow, Karl Von Habsburg, Newman Press, 1959.

55. The Antichrist King Juan Carlos, Charles Taylor, 1994.

56. The belief that Javier Solana is the antichrist is a view supported by Constance E Cumbey and Herb Peters. Cumbey is author of the # 1 Best Seller The Hidden Dangers of the Rainbow.

57. The award sponsors assert that the list of Charlemagne Prize winners reflects the history of the European process of unification. They continue that it has been awarded to the founding fathers of the United Europe such as de Gasperi, Schuman, Monnet and Adenauer, and to those who have embodied hope for integration such as Edward Heath, Konstantin Karamanlis, and His Majesty Juan Carlos I. Previous winners of the prize include Winston Churchill, Paul Henri Spaak, Henry Kissinger, King Juan Carlos, Jacque Delors, Queen Beatrix of Netherlands, Bill Clinton and Pope John Paul II.

58. http://www.aachen.de/EN/sb/pr_az/karls_pr/laureates/declaration_07/declaration07.html

59. http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/bonaparte_napoleon.shtml

60. Carroll, Bob. Napoleon Bonaparte (The Importance Of). San Diego: Lucent Books, 1994.

61. Hitler's Pope: The Secret History of Pius XII, John Cornwell. The full details of the concordat between Hitler and the Vatican can be viewed at <http://www.concordatwatch.eu>. In October 2008 The Vatican rejected requests to immediately open its secret archives on wartime Pope Pius XII, who critics say did not speak out enough to save Jews during Hitler's extermination campaign. But a Jewish leader said Pope Benedict XVI told a Jewish group he would give "serious consideration" to their request to freeze the sainthood process for Pius XII until the archives on Pius' papacy were opened. The Vatican says Benedict has been reflecting on documentation gathered by Church officials about Pius XII's virtues as part of the process toward possible beatification, the last formal step before possible sainthood.

62. Dr. Ben Weider, When the Ghetto walls came tumbling down. Further information on Napoleon and his treatment of the Jews can be found at <http://www.napoleonicociety.com> an organization formed by Dr Ben Weider.

63. Binchy, D.A. Church and State in Fascist Italy. London: Oxford University Press, 1941.

64. David Pack, Worldwide Church of God

65. The Theosophical Society, founded in 1875, is a worldwide body whose primary object is Universal Brotherhood based on the realization that life, and all its diverse forms, human and non-human, is indivisibly One.

66. The activities of the Lucis Trust promote the education of the human mind towards recognition and practice of the spiritual principles and values upon which a stable and interdependent world society may be based. The Lucis Trust is non-political and non-sectarian. It sponsors no special creed or dogma. www.lucistrust.org

67. Creme, Benjamin. The Reappearance of the Christ and the Masters of Wisdom. Tara Press, 1980.

68. Creme, Benjamin. Maitreya's Mission. 3 vols. Share International Foundation, 1986, 1993, 1997.

69. http://www.lucitrust.org/en/service_activities/world_goodwill_1/purposes_objectives

70. The 1893 Parliament, which ran from September 11 to September 27, had marked the first formal gathering of representatives of Eastern and Western spiritual traditions. Today it is recognized as the occasion of the birth of formal interreligious dialogue worldwide. Absent from this event were Native American religious figures, Sikhs and other Indigenous and Earth centered religionists. (It would not be until the 1993 Parliament that these religions and spiritual traditions would be represented. The conference did include new religious movements of the time, such as Spiritualism and Christian Science. The latter was represented by its founder Mary Baker Eddy. Rev. Henry Jessup addressing the World Parliament of Religions was the first to mention the Bahá'í Faith in the United States (it had previously been known in Europe.[1]) Since then Bahá'ís have become active participants. The Buddhist preacher Anagarika Dharmapala was invited there as a representative of "Southern Buddhism" - which was the term applied at that time to the Theravada.

71. Taken from <http://www.parliamentofreligions.org/index.cfm?n=1&sn=1>

72. http://www.christianresearchservice.com/Benny_Hinn.htm

73. Paul Henri Spaak, Council of Europe, 1949

74. A hallmark research and one of the most respected publications ever into the area of a quest for a one world religion is the book, False Dawn authored by Lee Pen published by Sophia.

75. David Ickes materials can be viewed at <http://www.davidicke.com>. Icke argues that he has developed a moral and political worldview that combines New Age spiritualism with a passionate denunciation of what he sees as totalitarian and Orwellian trends in the modern world, a position that has been described as "New Age conspiracism." At the heart of Icke's theories is the view that the world is ruled by a secret group referred to as the "Global Elite" or "Illuminati," which he has linked to The Protocols of the Elders of Zion, an anti-Semitic hoax. In 1999, he published The Biggest Secret, in which he wrote that the Illuminati are a race of reptilian humanoids known as the Babylonian Brotherhood, and that many prominent figures are reptilian, including George W. Bush, Queen Elizabeth II, Kris Kristofferson.

William Cooper is the author of Behold A Pale Horse. The book has become the best selling underground book of all time. It is read and promoted by word of mouth by People of all races, religions, and nationalities.

76. The Cosmic Conspiracy, Stan Deyo, West Australian Texas Trading, 1992.

77. In February, 2006, Pastor John Hagee decided the time had come to create a national grassroots movement focused on the support of Israel. He called upon Christian leaders from across America to join him in launching this new initiative. Over 400 Christian leaders answered the call and Christians United for Israel was born. Since that date, CUFI has quickly grown to be the largest Christian grassroots movement in America. We now have state directors in every state in the union, and we have city directors in over 90 of America's leading cities. In July 2008, 4,500 Christians from all 50 states came to Washington, D.C. to participate in the second annual CUFI Washington-Israel Summit. And CUFI has only just begun.

78. A biography of Barack Obama from <http://www.biography.com/featured-biography/barack-obama/bio-print.html>

79. In February 2008 Republican presidential candidate John McCain moved to distance himself Friday from the views of a San Antonio televangelist who Democrats say peddles anti-Catholic and other intolerant speech. But Mr. McCain refused to renounce the endorsement of John Hagee, a leading figure in the Christian Zionist movement. "In no way did I intend for his endorsement to suggest that I in turn agree with all of Pastor Hagee's views, which I obviously do not," he said in a prepared statement. The campaign issued the statement after two days of criticism from the Democratic National Committee, the Catholic League and Catholics United, who say Mr. Hagee has written negative things about the Catholic Church.

80. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mopkn0IPzM8>

81. The Matthew 25 Network is a community of Christians – Catholic, Protestant, Orthodox, Pentecostal, and Evangelical – inspired by the Gospel mandate to put our faith into action to care for their community. <http://www.matthew25.org>

82. Time Magazine. Election 08, August 2008.

83. <http://transcripts.cnn.com/TRANSCRIPTS/0808/14/ec.01.html>

84. Barack Obama through Muslim Eyes, FrontpageMagazine.com, August 25th, 2008-11-03.

85. <http://edition.cnn.com/2008/POLITICS/07/24/obama.words>

86. <http://edition.cnn.com/2008/POLITICS/08/16/warren.forum>

87. Azdailysun.com Saturday, October 25, 2008

88. Jack Smith is the author of "Islam – The Cloak of Antichrist in Bible Prophecy" and runs a website called <http://whenthepiecesfit.org> which believes that the end time powers prophesied in Daniel and Revelation are in reference to Islam.

89. Trilateralism, The Trilateral Commission and Elite Planning for World Management, Holly Sklar, South end Press, 1980.

90. The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is a permanent intergovernmental international organisation creation of which was proclaimed on 15 June 2001 in Shanghai (China) by the Republic of Kazakhstan, the People's Republic of China, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan. Its prototype is the Shanghai Five mechanism. The main goals of the SCO are strengthening mutual confidence and good-neighbourly relations among the member countries; promoting their effective cooperation in politics, trade and economy, science and technology, culture as well as education, energy, transportation, tourism, environmental protection and other fields; making joint efforts to maintain and ensure peace, security and stability in the region, to move towards the establishment of a new, democratic, just and rational political and economic international order. <http://www.sectesco.org>

91. See the full actual clip of the question being asked and Obama's answer here at <http://24ahead.com/blog/archives/007602.html>

92. Tim Cohen's resources can be found at <http://www.prophecyhouse.com>

Reviews of Tim Cohen's book, The Antichrist and a Cup of Tea are as follows:

"A lot of prophecy books cross my desk, but this one--this one--you have to get.... [The] premise is provocative and...[the] book is historically fascinating, and it's far more illuminating than many.... [Moreover, it] exhaustively documents a possible identity of the coming world leader, and we find the book...an absolute jewel.... I am profoundly impressed...." -- Chuck Missler, Author, Alien Encounters

"Challenging, informative, and timely, Tim Cohen's material is must reading!" -- Gary Kah, Author, En Route to Global Occupation

"Essentially, the entire book presents a fairly solid case for...a possible candidate for [the role of the] Anti-christ. It is definitely worth a read!" -- William Schnoebelen, Author, Wicca, Satan's Little White Lie and Masonry, Beyond The Light

"For the first time, the average person can understand the organizations that are already in place that will allow one man to control the world. This book is must reading for those who desire to understand the real power brokers behind the New World Order." -- Sid Roth, Author and President, Messianic Vision

"Provocatively titled, this book should become the object of the fascination of many...." "Any reader will...absorb more knowledge than would be the case from nearly every prophetic manuscript which he has read...." -- Dr. David Breese, Author, Seven Men Who Rule the World from the Grave

"Rarely has a book been so thoroughly researched! The uniqueness of Tim Cohen's work is the way he brings so many facts together that point to a possible candidate for the...'Antichrist.'.... The historical 'connections' are worth the price of the book alone." -- Dr. David Hocking, Author and President, Hope for Today

"the magnitude of your work staggers the mind, and at the same time challenges my thought processes, and presuppositions" -- Ken Klein, Author, The False Prophet

93. Joan Veon's resources can be found at <http://www.womensgroup.org>

94. The full speech of Prince Charles can be seen at http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/english/static/events/reith_2000/lecture6.stm

95. The Mail on Sunday in December 2007 provided an insight into the hologram technology behind Prince Charles appearance at the World Energy Summit. <http://www.mailonsunday.co.uk/news/article-502599/Prince-Charles-appear-conference-hologram.html>

96. The Telegraph, September 30th 2008, <http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/main.jhtml?xml=/earth/2008/09/30/eacharles230.xml>

97. Joan Veon, The Sustainable Prince.

98. Christian Today, October 26th, 2006.

99. The Independent, May 28th, 2006.

100. Cinnamon Stillwell writes for SFGate.com, Frontpagemag.com, Jewish Press, and Israel National News. Her website is CinnamonStillwell.com

101. Prince Charles: The Constantine of Islam, Ali Sina, 3rd November 2005, www.faithfreedom.org,

102. The Merovingian heresy advocated in "The Davinci Code" was that Jesus did not die on the cross and rise from the dead becoming mankind's Salvation, instead it is claimed He had sex with Mary Magdalene, survived the Roman crucifixion, and lived to father at least one, or a number of Divine children, the firstborn said to be a son named Judah or Merovee, a name later given to the first Merovingian King in France (447 to 458 AD) while others believe the child was actually a daughter, given the name of Sarah (or Tamar, which became the name of an ultra-secretive organization whose task it was to protect future Merovingian descendants). Regardless of the supposed names, titles, and endless genealogies, an entire race of enlightened Christ-like beings each leading to the next in succession in some Messianic Dynasty has supposedly

passed down through the ages toward a final One who would rule in the name of Christ, albeit, in the place (instead) of Christ. The Illuminati is the continuation of the Mystery Religions of Babylon and Egypt and the bloodlines of the

Illuminati go back to people who at one time lived in Babylon and Egypt. The Merovingian cult is steeped with Occult symbols with those possessing it believing themselves to be true and rightful heirs of Jerusalem, they being the true Kingdom of [their] God on earth and gods of a Divine Monarchy whose right it is to rule the world. Heresy at best as some might attribute, yet it is their own elitist belief and prophecy in a soon revealed King from the lineage of King David, of Anglo-Messianic descent which arises to preside over all the world at a time he's needed most, that is most intriguing.

103. Researcher/Author David Icke, "Alice in Wonderland and the World Trade Center".

104. -David Icke, "The Windsor-Bush Bloodline".

105. Before the Habsburgs, the House of Lorraine and Charlemagne were the Merovingians (Meroveus/Merovee) who originally brought the bloodline to France and Northwest Europe. Back in 4th century Rome the bloodline passed through Emperor Constantine, the first professed Christian emperor who initiated the Roman Empire's transition into a Christian State and presided over the first Council of Nicaea. He was preceded by the Roman Piso family whom will be discussed at length later. Before them came Herod the Great of Biblical fame and Ptolemy XIV, son of the most well-known Roman emperor Julius Caesar. Caesar actually married into the bloodline through Cleopatra, the most well-known Egyptian Queen. A little further down this very same bloodline brings us to Alexander the Great:

106. Michael Tsarion, "Astrotheology and Sidereal Mythology".

107. The Prince and the Paranormal. The psychic Bloodline of the Royal Family, John Dale, Book Club Assocs 1986.

108. Brit-Am Israel newsletter, 2/9/99.

109. The Antichrist, Arthur W Pink, Kregel Publications, 1988, Chapter 3, The Person of the Antichrist.

110. Armageddon, World War III, Antichrist, and the Second Coming of Jesus, IslamicWeb.com.

111. Red Heifer Days—Religion Takes the Lead, Ron Dreher, NRO=National Review Online, April 11, 2002.

112. <http://www.islamicweb.com/history/ww3.htm>

113. Morals and Dogma, Albert Pike, published by the Supreme Council of the Thirty Third Degree for the Southern Jurisdiction of the United States Charleston, 1871.

114. Encyclopaedia of Freemasonry", by Albert Mackey, MD, 33^o and Charles T. McClenachan, 33^o, Revised Edition, by Edward L. Hawkins, 30^o and William J. Hughan, 32^o, Volume II, M-Z, published by The Masonic History Company, Chicago, New York, London, 1873, A.G. Mackey, 1927, by the Masonic History Company.

115. The Holy Bible: The Great Light In Masonry", King James Version, Temple Illustrated Edition, A.J. Holman Company, 1968, Forward entitled, "The Bible and King Solomon's Temple in Masonry", by John Wesley Kelchner.

116. The Armageddon Script, Peter Lemesurier.

117. The Cutting Edge, Noahide Laws and New World order.

118. Enziklopediya Talmudit, note 1, pp. 351-352.

119. The tribulation is interpreted as a time of significant trouble which will precede the second coming of Christ and will see the physical manifestation of Gods judgements on the earth. These judgments are described as seals and vials of wrath in Revelation. Some believe this period will begin with the rapture of the church, others the signing of a 7 year covenant between Israel and the antichrist and others, the abomination of desolation as described by many of the gospel writers.

120. "But in a way reminiscent of the error Judas committed, some bishops and prelates and their assistant officials have set themselves up, as an antichrist within the church. They do not want to leave the church. They do not intend to shatter

the unity of the church. They do not intend to obliterate the church but just to make it over to their own plan. They no longer believe in the catholic doctrine of papal magisterium. They are convinced that they can reconcile the church and its enemies by decent compromise. That they really understand what is going on and that they can ensure the success of Christ's church by compacting with world leaders."

The Keys of this Blood - The Struggle for World Dominion between Pope John Paul II, Mikhail Gorbachev and the Capitalist West, Malachi Martin, Simon & Schuster, USA, 1990.

121. Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance is a memoir by 2008 United States President, Barack Obama of Illinois. It was first published in 1995 after Obama was elected the first African-American president of the Harvard Law Review, but before his political career began. The book was re-released in 2004 following Senator Obama's keynote address at the 2004 Democratic National Convention (DNC); the 2004 edition includes a new introduction by Senator Obama as well as his DNC keynote address.

122. <http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com>

123. The Anglo Saxon concept is found in movements such as British-Israelism (Anglo-Israelism) which is the belief and teaching of a number of religious groups, that the 10 "lost" tribes of Israel are actually the Anglo-Saxon race and are specifically the people of Great Britain. By definition, then, the Anglo-Saxon (or white) people are the true Israelites, being the descendants of Abraham and are the only chosen people of God and heirs to the covenant of God. The movement sees the people who are living in Israel today, calling themselves Jews, as impostors who mistakenly identify themselves with the Israelites, but are, in fact, descendants of Judah and are not the chosen people of God and are not part of the covenant of God. This belief and teaching is popular in many circles, religious and otherwise. It provides a convenient foundation for the justification of attacks on the current Jewish people and the anti-Semitism that is found in the world today. By joining themselves to the teaching and belief, people claim that they are not anti-Semitic because the real Jews are Anglo-Saxons and therefore they, themselves, are the true Semites.

124. The Syrian Wars were a series of six wars between the Seleucid Empire and the Ptolemaic Kingdom during the 3rd and 2nd centuries BC over the region of Coele-Syria, one of the few avenues into Egypt. These conflicts drained the strength of both parties involved and led to their eventual destruction at the hands of Rome and Parthia. These wars form a major premise of Daniel 11:1-35 and Daniel 8:21-22.

125. There is little mention of Jesus in the Talmud because it rejects the gospel claims of Jesus as the Messiah and information about Jesus was censored. The missing portions of Jesus were found in Yemen and brought to Israel where in 1987 where they were published by Rabbi Eliyahu Touger and the Maznaim Publishing Corporation confirming the historical account of Jesus i.e. He aspired to be the Messiah, he was executed by the Sanhedrin, that he descended from King David etc.

126. Isaiah 11:6-9, Isaiah 60:1-5, Isaiah 65:25, Ezekiel 47:9, Ezekiel 60:6 etc describes the millennial conditions of Christ reign on earth.

127. <http://www.clubofrome.org>

128. Understanding the New World Order Page 154-157, Roy Livesy, New Wine Press, 1989.

129. <http://theisraelreport.com>

130. <http://www.weu.int>

131. <http://www.assembly-weu.org/en/presse/cp/communiques.php>

132. Report for Selected Country Groups and Subjects (European Union)". World Economic Outlook Database, April 2008 Edition. International Monetary Fund (April 2008). Retrieved on 2008-05-03. "Gross domestic product, current prices; U.S. dollars, Billions; 2007 = 16,830.100, 2008=18,493.009. Gross domestic product based on purchasing-power-parity (PPP) valuation of country GDP; Current international dollar, Billions; 2007 = 14,712.369;2008 = 15,282.118"

133. The Antichrist and a Cup of Tea, Tom Cohen, Prophecy House, Page 184
134. The Antichrist and a Cup of Tea, Tim Cohen, Prophecy House, Page 196
135. Michael Powell, 'On Center Stage, a Candidate Letting His Confidence Show,' New York Times, February 24, 2008
136. Jessica Van Sack, 'The Monday Morning Presidential Briefing', Boston Herald, February 18, 2008
137. John McCormick, 'Even blowing his nose, Obama gets applause', The Swamp, February 20, 2008
138. Ezra Klein, Obama's Gift, The American Prospect, January 3, 2008
139. Mark Morford, Is Obama an Enlightened Being?, San Francisco Chronicle, June 6, 2008
140. Steve Davis, Journal Gazette, March 31, 2008
141. The Democratic Presidential Candidates Debate, The Palace Theatre, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, January 21, 2008
142. Brian Ross and Rehab El-Buri, Obama's Pastor: God Damn America, US to Blame for 9/11, ABC Mews, March 13, 2008
143. Revered Jeremiah Wright, Obama's Pastor Now a Campaign Liability?, Good Morning America, March 13, 2008
144. A Black Theology of Liberation, Dr James Cone, Orbis Books, 1986
145. Black Power Black Theology, Dr James Cone
146. "Divine Racism: The Unacknowledged Threshold Issue for Black Theology", in African-American Religious Thought: An Anthology, by William R Jones, ed Cornel West and Eddie Glaube (Westminster John Knox Press).
147. A Black Theology of Liberation, Dr James Cone, Orbis Books, 1986, Page 70
148. The American Thinker, Why Islamists Cheer for Obama, November 27, 2008
149. WorldNetDaily, New Terrorists Swoon over Biden, October 19, 2008
150. Aljazeera, Iran prefers Obama Presidency, October 23, 2008
151. WorldNetDaily, Farrakhan on Obama, The Messiah is absolutely Speaking, October 09, 2008
152. www.AmericanRenaissance.Com , Obama Through Muslim Eyes, August 25, 2008
153. www.sify.com, June 25, 2008
154. The Economic Times, June 10, 2008
155. Transcript of the Illinois 90th General Assembly, March 30, 2001
156. Hank De Zutter, What Makes Obama Run, Chicago Reader, December 08, 1995
157. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Second_Amendment_to_the_United_States_Constitution
158. The Chicago Defender, May 05, 2001
159. The Antichrist, Arthur W Pink, Kregel Publications, 1988, Page 41
160. Shaykh Muhammad Hisham Kabbani, The Approach of Armageddon? An Islamic Perspective (Canada, Supreme Muslim Council of America, 2003),
161. Tabarni, related by Hadrat Abu Umamah, quoted by Zubair Ali p43

162. One of the most insightful readings on Islamic eschatology from a christian perspective is “Antichrist – Islam’s Awaited Messiah” by Joel Richardson.

On the whole this book is really stunning!The case made for an Islamic Antichrist is extremely convincing. The author shows a remarkable knowledge, not only of Islam's books but also of the prevailing Muslim mentalities. Incidentally, it was a relief for a Catholic, to read a book on End Times which implicitly ridicules the widespread claims that the Catholic Church was the Beast of the book of Revelation. (Amazon Review)

This book is a fascinating, frightening comparative analysis of Islamic and Christian eschatology. The author is a Christian (Protestant) who has studied Islam during the course of his long-term involvement in interfaith dialogues. Drawing from the Koran and the Sunna--the two principle sources of Islamic doctrines--he has identified the prophesied Islamic Messiah, Muhammed al Mahdi, as a figure quite similar to the Christian "Antichrist," as described in the book of Revelations, and in the Judaic prophecies of Ezekial and Daniel. He then demonstrates that the returning "Jesus" (Isa) of Islamic eschatology is quite similar to the Christian "false prophet," who will, in fact serve the Antichrist in the conquest and destruction of Israel, presenting himself to the world as a non-divine "Jesus" who is subservient to Allah and his Mahdi. The author's interpretation of the two prophetic traditions is that the Mahdi will re-establish the Islamic Ottoman Empire, which was essentially built on the foundation of the Orthodox Christian Byzantine Empire. This book is particularly frightening in light of the current turmoil in the Persian Gulf. For example, the militias of the Shi'a leader of Iraq, Mohktada al Sadr, is now called the "Mahdi" army. Muhammed al Mahdi is supposed to return to earth, presumably reuniting the Sunna and Shi'a factions of Islam by his presence. The prophesied destruction of Israel in the end times is supposed to originate in Khorasan, modern day Iran. Skeptics will scoff at the whole concept of prophesy, and the perrenial concerns about the "end times," but, after reading this book, I certainly wonder if we are witnessing the beginning of a pan-Islamic reign of terror in the Middle East, and around the world. (Amazon Review)

163. George Otis & David Aikman, The Last of the Giants: Lifting the Veil on Islam and End Times, 1991

In his book, Last of the Giants, George Otis Jr. leads the reader deep into the heart of modern day Islam (within the context of the 1990's) This is a meticulously well documented account of the three forces that are moving in the earth today: Materialism, Hinduism and Islam. It is an important read not only to place the church today in a timeline of the book of Revelation, but to expose Western Christianity to the reality of the spirit realm and the nature of aggressive Islam. This book is not about demonizing Muslims. It is about equipping the praying church how to wage informed intercession. Although some of the details are dated, such as the fall of communism, that does not negate the insight relayed through the authors study. The first nine chapters are devoted to the author's in-depth research both historical and contemporary on Islam as a worldwide movement. The last two chapters tie together the belief that we are not waging war against flesh and blood but powers and principalities. Therefore, the author encourages the reader to respond to his message through prayer or missions to this unreached people group. (Amazon Review)

164. Shaykh Muhammad Hisham Kabbani, The Approach of Armageddon? An Islamic Perspective (Canada, Supreme Muslim Council of America, 2003), p. 223

165. Sahih Muslim Book 041, Number 7005, reported by Ibn Umar

166. Sahih Muslim Book 041, Number 7010, reported by Hudhalfa

167. Tirmidhi, quoted by Mohammed Ali Ibn Zubair Ali, Signs of Qiyamah p42 Baitul Maqdas in Arabic means Holy House, so this refers to the Dome of the Rock which is located on the Temple

168. Sunan Ibn Majah #4067, related by Abu Umamam Al-Bahili, quoted in Kabbani, p. 225

169. Philips, Ph.D. Ad-Dajjal, The Antichrist, (Alexandria, Soundknowledge Audio Publishers, 2001)

170. Excerpts from a Friday sermon delivered by Palestinian Authority Imam Sheikh Ibrahim Madhi at the Sheikh 'Ijlin Mosque in Gaza City, broadcast live on April 12, 2002 by Palestinian Authority television
<http://memri.org/bin/articles.cgi?Page=archives&Area=sd&ID=SP37002>

171. In his book "Armageddon, Oil and The Middle Eastern Crisis", John F Walvoord makes a significant premise that whilst from an earthly perspective, the battle of Armageddon will be a series of wars between different world regions as the false peace of the Antichrist begins to fragment when he makes Jerusalem his capital, from a satanic perspective, the truth purpose of Armageddon is to bring the entire might of the world armies into the Middle East to oppose the Second Coming of Christ and his descent to the Mount of Olives. The ultimate strategy is to oppose the Second Coming of Christ through the weapons of Warfare and ultimately destroy Israel in the means.

172. John Philips, Exploring The Future, Loizeaux Brothers Inc, 1992, Page 32

173. Dwight Pentecost, Things to Come, Zondervan Publishing House, 1958, Page 322

174. <http://www.greatamericanhistory.net>

175. (Ferdinand C. Iglehart, Theodore Roosevelt - The Man As I knew Him, A.L. Burt, 1919) 1909 - President Theodore Roosevelt:

176. <http://pewresearch.org> The Pew Research Center is a nonpartisan "fact tank" that provides information on the issues, attitudes and trends shaping America and the world. It does not take positions on policy issues. Its work is carried out by these seven projects

177. <http://www.ifcj.org> Launched in 2002, Stand for Israel aims to engage people both spiritually and politically on behalf of Israel and the Jewish people, by encouraging them to "pray for the peace of Jerusalem" and providing them with the facts they need to advocate for the Jewish state and fight anti-Israel bias in the media.

178. <http://urj.org/Articles/index.cfm?id=19553> The CCAR Convention, April 2, 2008

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Anglo-Israelism has a long history. The Puritan colonists in America also viewed themselves as spiritual descendants of the ancient Israelites. However, it was not until 1840 that John Wilson published "Lectures on our Israelitish Origin" and first proclaimed that the British people were the actual genetic descendants of God's chosen people.

The Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) records how a schism occurred among the ancient Hebrews, separating the land into:

- The Southern Kingdom of Judah which included the tribes of Benjamin and Levi, and
- The Northern Kingdom of Israel which included the remaining ten tribes.

About 721 BCE, the latter was captured by the Assyrians. According to historians and archaeologists, its population was taken into captivity, and assimilated. Non-Hebrews were imported in the region and the Northern Kingdom ceased to exist. However, British Israel writers developed the belief that these "ten tribes" were able to retain their identity and cohesiveness, became lost to history, and wandered far from the Middle East. They concluded that the stone used in the coronation of King David was transported to the British Isles where it exists today as the Stone of Scone. The latter stone is still used for the coronation of British queens and kings. The writers promoted the belief that divine authority was transferred from ancient Israel to England along with the stone. In reality, the origin of the Stone of Scone has been traced to rock outcroppings in Scotland using standard geological analysis methods.

British Israelism was quite popular during the ascent of the British Empire, but quickly lost favor as the Empire was converted into a Commonwealth of Nations. In the early years of the 20th century, Charles Parham and John Allen were the main teachers of British-Israelism in the United States. Parham later went on to be a major influence in the Pentecostal movement. Allen's book "Judah's Scepter and Joseph's Birthright" spread the concept through the Adventist and other churches.

British Israelism formed a main part of the foundation of Herbert W. Armstrong's Worldwide Church of God.

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329. The Anglo Saxon concept is found in movements such as British-Israelism (Anglo-Israelism) which is the belief and teaching of a number of religious groups, that the 10 "lost" tribes of Israel are actually the Anglo-Saxon race and are specifically the people of Great Britain. By definition, then, the Anglo-Saxon (or white) people are the true Israelites, being the descendants of Abraham and are the only chosen people of God and heirs to the covenant of God. The movement sees the people who are living in Israel today, calling themselves Jews, as impostors who mistakenly identify themselves with the Israelites, but are, in fact, descendants of Judah and are not the chosen people of God and are not part of the covenant of God. This belief and teaching is popular in many circles, religious and otherwise. It provides a convenient foundation for the justification of attacks on the current Jewish people and the anti-Semitism that is found in the world today. By joining themselves to the teaching and belief, people claim that they are not anti-Semitic because the real Jews are Anglo-Saxons and therefore they, themselves, are the true Semites.
330. The principal belief of Anglo/British Israelism is that the British (and by extension Americans, Canadians, Australians, and others) are the spiritual and literal descendants of the ancient Israelites.

Anglo-Israelism has a long history. The Puritan colonists in America also viewed themselves as spiritual descendants of the ancient Israelites. However, it was not until 1840 that John Wilson published "Lectures on our Israelitish Origin" and first proclaimed that the British people were the actual genetic descendants of God's chosen people.

The Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) records how a schism occurred among the ancient Hebrews, separating the land into:

- The Southern Kingdom of Judah which included the tribes of Benjamin and Levi, and
- The Northern Kingdom of Israel which included the remaining ten tribes.

About 721 BCE, the latter was captured by the Assyrians. According to historians and archaeologists, its population was taken into captivity, and assimilated. Non-Hebrews were imported in the region and the Northern Kingdom ceased to exist. However, British Israel writers developed the belief that these "ten tribes" were able to retain their identity and cohesiveness, became lost to history, and wandered far from the Middle East. They concluded that the stone used in the coronation of King David was transported to the British Isles where it exists today as the Stone of Scone. The latter stone is still used for the coronation of British queens and kings. The writers promoted the belief that divine authority was transferred from ancient Israel to England along with the stone. In reality, the origin of the Stone of Scone has been traced to rock outcroppings in Scotland using standard geological analysis methods.

British Israelism was quite popular during the ascent of the British Empire, but quickly lost favor as the Empire was converted into a Commonwealth of Nations. In the early years of the 20th century, Charles Parham and John Allen were the main teachers of British-Israelism in the United States. Parham later went on to be a major influence in the Pentecostal movement. Allen's book "Judah's Scepter and Joseph's Birthright" spread the concept through the Adventist and other churches. British Israelism formed a main part of the foundation of Herbert W. Armstrong's Worldwide Church of God.

331. This information is taken from a book from a former Luciferian Illuminist, Doc Marquis. His book is "Secrets of the Illuminati" and reveals much formerly hidden detail known only to Illuminists

332. 2.2.09 / Lydia Polgreen / New York Times