THE KING OF THE SOUTH
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GERALD FLURRY
The Prophet Daniel wrote about a future confrontation between the king of the north and the king of the south. We are now in the time when these two major powers are quickly rising! The king of the south is stirring up trouble even today. It is critical that you know the identity of this prophesied power!
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The King of the South

The king of the north and the king of the south are two powers prophesied to clash in this end time. We must know who they are.

“And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over” (Daniel 11:40). Both powers are rising fast on the world scene right now. This clash will shake the world as never before! And that is the good news. The bad news is that it will lead to World War III!

Do you know the identity of these “kings”? It is critical that you do! I want to prove to you that Islamic extremism is the king of the south. You need this understanding.

THE TIME OF THE END

Let’s look at the expression “time of the end.” The king of the north and the king of the south arise in the “time
of the end” (Daniel 11:40). Daniel 12:4 also mentions the “time of the end.” Notice Daniel 12:9: “And he said, Go thy way, Daniel: for the words are closed up and sealed till the time of the end.”

The phrase “time of the end” in these three verses comes from the same Hebrew words. Daniel 11:40 begins an end-time story flow that continues through chapter 12. Daniel 12:1 discusses “at that time.” What time? “The time of the end” spoken of in Daniel 11:40. “And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book” (Daniel 12:1). “At that time” there is unparalleled world cataclysm, and God’s people are delivered from this Great Tribulation. So this is a “now” prophecy!

Daniel 11:40 tells us the king of the south will “push” at the king of the north. When does this push occur? It must happen after the book of Daniel was revealed in this end time. Daniel 12:9 tells us the time of the end began when Daniel was revealed. So the king of the south must arise after Daniel was revealed to God’s chosen people—specifically, to the late Herbert W. Armstrong. Many more details of Daniel’s book have since been revealed to us today.

Who are these two “kings”? To understand their identity, let’s look at some of their history.

**HISTORY OF TWO KINGS**

Notice Daniel 11:2-3: “And now will I shew thee the truth. Behold, there shall stand up yet three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be far richer than they all: and by his strength through his riches he shall stir up all against the
realm of Grecia. And a mighty king shall stand up, that shall rule with great dominion, and do according to his will.”

Here is what Mr. Armstrong wrote concerning these verses in his booklet *The Middle East in Prophecy*: “Actually there were 12 more kings in the Persian Empire, but only the first four following Cyrus were of importance for the purpose of this prophecy. They were Cambyses, pseudo-Smerdis, Darius and Xerxes. It was the last, or Xerxes, who was the richest of all and stirred up war with Greece.

“Then King Philip of Macedonia planned a great war to conquer the Persian Empire, with an army made up mostly of Grecians. He died before the plans were completed. But his son, Alexander the Great, took over his plans, and invaded Persia. He met the Persian army at the Battle of Issus, 333 B.C. (Daniel 8:2, 5-6). Then he swept down into Egypt, and then to a final crushing defeat of the Persian Empire at the Battle of Arbela, 331 B.C., after which Alexander marched on a conquest clear to India, sweeping all before him.”

Daniel 11:4 continues the story: “And when he shall stand up, his kingdom shall be broken, and shall be divided toward the four winds of heaven; and not to his posterity, nor according to his dominion which he ruled: for his kingdom shall be plucked up, even for others beside those.” Mr. Armstrong then wrote, “How marvelously—how accurately—that came to pass.” He quoted from *A Manual of Ancient History*, by George Rawlinson, an authoritative history: “Cut off unexpectedly in the vigor of early manhood [at age 33, June 323 B.C.], he [Alexander] left no inheritor, either of his power or of his projects.” Mr. Armstrong continued (emphasis mine throughout): “The empire was left leaderless and in confusion, but out of this emerged, by the year 301 B.C., four divisions, just as
prophesied, by a division of the empire into four divisions by Alexander’s generals. They were:

“1. Ptolemy (Soter), ruling Egypt, part of Syria, and Judea
“2. Seleucus (Nicator), ruling Syria, Babylonia and territory east to India
“3. Lysimachus, ruling Asia Minor
“4. Cassander, ruling Greece and Macedonia.”

“Thus,” Mr. Armstrong wrote, “was the prophecy of verse 4 fulfilled to the letter.” He continued: “Now notice what follows. From here the prophecy foretells the activities only of two of these four divisions, Egypt, [anciently] called ‘king of the south’ because it is south of Jerusalem; and the Syrian kingdom, [anciently] the king of the north, just north of Judea.”

Today I believe that much of the king of the south’s land area will be south of Jerusalem, but not all. For example, Sudan is already in the radical Islamic camp. Algeria may be there very soon. But all of the king of the south’s land area is south of the end-time king of the north.

Mr. Armstrong continued, “It is because the Holy Land passed back and forth between those two divisions, and because their different wars were principally over possession of Judea, that the prophecy is concerned with them.” Notice Daniel 11:5: “And the king of the south [Egypt, the ancient type of the end-time fulfillment] shall be strong, and one of his princes; and he shall be strong above him, and have dominion; his dominion shall be a great dominion.”

Mr. Armstrong said of these two kings that “their different wars were principally over possession of Judea,” called Israel today. And it appears they go to war again over the land of Judah—specifically Jerusalem.

During the Crusades, Jerusalem was always the main prize. This city is of supreme religious importance to Jews, Christians and Muslims. The so-called Christian Crusades
were really *Catholic* crusades. The Roman Catholics generally clashed with Muslim armies.

It is important that we understand this history. It is about to be repeated—again. After prophecy, history is our next indication of what the future holds.

Jerusalem was the capital of Israel. And in the end-time prophecies about Jerusalem, the United States and Britain are included. The British peoples (biblical Ephraim), America (biblical Manasseh) and Judah are all prophesied to fall at the same time (Hosea 5:5). (A thorough explanation of the modern identity of these biblical names can be found in our book *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, by Herbert W. Armstrong. Request your free copy.)

Shortly after the king of the north conquers the king of the south, its ambition will grow beyond just conquering Jerusalem. (Request our free booklet *Jerusalem in Prophecy*.)

Mr. Armstrong wrote, “In history, we learn that the original Ptolemy I, called Soter, became strong and powerful, developing Egypt beyond the greatest dreams of Alexander. One of his princes, or generals, Seleucus Nicator, also became strong and powerful. And in 312 B.C., taking advantage of Ptolemy’s being tied up in a war, he established himself in Syria and assumed the diadem as king.”

Let’s drop down to verses 34 and 35 of Daniel 11. “Now when they shall fall, they shall be holpen with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with flatteries. And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, *even to the time of the end*: because it is yet for a time appointed.”

Mr. Armstrong wrote, “Here is described in general the whole course of God’s people … notice the vision carries on down to this present time of the end.”

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

Mr. Armstrong continued, “The king of the north—who is he, now [in the early and middle ages], to which our prophecy has come? In 65 B.C., Syria was swallowed up by the Roman empire, and became a Roman province. The Roman emperor now controlled Judea, and therefore the king of the north, here referred to, is, at this time, the emperor of the Roman empire.”

This is a critical piece of the puzzle. The Bible prophesies of 10 resurrections of this Roman Empire, the last seven of which are guided by the Roman Catholic Church (request our free booklet Who or What Is the Prophetic Beast? and our free book The Holy Roman Empire in Prophecy). History shows that all but one of those resurrections has already happened. The last resurrection is nearly upon us. This fits perfectly with the prophecy that the king of the north would cause great tribulation. The “time of the end” discussed in Daniel 11:40 through chapter 12 involves the king of the north, which is the seventh resurrection of the Holy Roman Empire. The king of the north will inflict that tribulation on the nations of biblical Israel (primarily the U.S., Britain and the Jews of the Middle East).

After all of the prophecy in Daniel 11 that has already been fulfilled, the prophecy skips forward to this present day, or the “time of the end.” Verse 40: “And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him ....”

This refers to a king of the south in our day.

The king of the north is comprised of several nations, led by one nation, Germany. It makes sense that the king of the south would have a similar composition. All indications point to Iran as the nation that produces the king of the south. Since the early 1990s, we have believed and
taught that Iran would lead the radical Islamist world and be the king of the south. Today Iran is “king” in the Middle East.

THE ROOT OF TERRORISM

History teaches us some powerful lessons—if we are willing to learn. For example, history teaches us that America and its allies cannot win their war against terrorism. We can learn some essential lessons about our future through history.

History is a wonderful teacher. So we'll start there. Then we can move on to a far greater teacher of why we can't conquer terrorism.

After the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on America, the U.S. targeted Afghanistan, then Iraq. Both of these campaigns absorbed an enormous amount of America's resources in its “war on terror.” But where did all of this world terrorism begin? Iraq and Afghanistan may be dangerous parts of the equation, but they are not the head of the terrorist snake.

We must go back in history to see terrorism's roots. It's not enough to destroy the branches. We must pull the terrorist tree up by the roots. It's the only way to win this war.

When Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi led Iran, he was a strong ally of America. But our liberal press and politicians thought he was too undemocratic, so they helped drive him from power. As he was falling, America gave him little or no support.

Then, in 1979, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini overthrew the shah. Khomeini established Iran as the world's number one state sponsor of terrorism. Ten years later, shortly after Khomeini died, Hashemi Rafsanjani became president and intensified Iran's international network of terrorism. It was
only then that some observers began to see what a terrible mistake liberals had made in assisting the shah’s downfall.

Back in 1994, then Secretary of State Warren Christopher called Iran “the world’s most significant state sponsor of terrorism.” How pathetic to make such a statement and do nothing about it! Just how much of a superpower is America? America has known for years who “the world’s most significant state sponsor of terrorism” is. But it lacks the will to deal with Iran—to hold Iran accountable for its terrorist acts of war!

In the 1990s, state-sponsored terrorism became deeply entrenched in Iran, and America’s leaders did almost nothing to combat it. And the U.S. “superpower” allows Iran to continue sponsoring violent terrorism to this day!

More than any other nation (apart from Iran itself), America is responsible for the overthrow of the shah and the ushering in of Ayatollah Khomeini. Our weakness could prove to be the biggest foreign-policy disaster of the 20th century!

How did it all happen?

We must understand how this relates to the present situation in Iraq. History shows how Islamic extremism can dramatically change the politics within a country, and it gives us an indication of the kind of power Iran could be very close to achieving.

Let’s look at Egypt, where Islamic extremism—which spawns terrorism—is gaining power at a frightening pace. There, one assassination turned the course of the entire middle east!

RADICAL CHANGES IN EGYPT

A few years before the fall of the shah of Iran, Egyptian President Anwar Sadat was the warrior leader of Egypt and
the Middle East. For example, he was the key leader of the
Arab world in the Yom Kippur War against the Jews.

But then the world was shocked—especially the Arab
world. About the time Iran’s shah fell, Sadat was becoming
an astounding Middle East peacemaker. He enraged the
Arab radicals by speaking at the Jewish Knesset (their par-
liament). One man was literally swinging the Middle East
toward peace with the West.

But Sadat was working against the tide of radical Islam.

It is interesting that the late Herbert W. Armstrong
visited with two Egyptian presidents: Sadat and Hosni
Mubarak. He gave both men a strong warning that we were
not going to have peace until Allah, or God, gave it to us!

In 1981, Mike Wallace of the television program 60
Minutes interviewed Ayatollah Khomeini (who had come
to power only two years before). He told the ayatollah that
Sadat had called him a “lunatic.”

Almost immediately afterward, within just days,
President Sadat was assassinated!

That is the kind of power the leader of radical Islam has!
America and the world allowed this evil power to change
history. Now terrorism is rampant around the world!
America didn’t have the will to stop such state-sponsored
madness when it would have been relatively easy to do so.

When the Sadat assassination occurred, Mr. Armstrong
said it was a turning point in Middle East history! And
that was almost an understatement. But virtually nobody
in the media saw—or they refused to see—what a world-
changing event that was!

Iran’s terrorist network was working frighteningly well.

President Sadat was in the process of changing the
Middle East for the good of the world. He took a stand
against many of his own people and the Arab world to
make peace with Israel. He proved to be a truly great man
by putting the interests of the world and Egypt above his personal safety. If the leaders of the U.S. and Britain had shown his courage, they would have dealt with Iran then. Because of U.S. weakness, the Middle East began to look to the king of terror for leadership. It all happened because of American, British and Israeli weakness.

Islamic radicals are very effective in assassinating top leaders. They probably also assassinated the speaker of Egypt’s parliament, Rifaat al-Mahgoub (the country’s second-ranking official at the time), in 1990. Gunmen on motorcycles sprayed his chauffeured sedan with automatic rifle fire. Radicals likely were also behind the killing of Algerian President Mohammed Boudiaf in 1992. Radical forces aimed at bringing down what was the moderate, pro-Western government of Lebanon assassinated Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri in 2005 in a car bomb, beginning a series of assassinations of prominent anti-Syrian Lebanese figures. In 2008, Lebanon’s governing coalition capitulated and a new government favoring Hezbollah was formed. In January 2011, Hezbollah ousted Lebanon’s U.S.-backed Prime Minister Saad Hariri in a “soft coup,” putting its own candidate in place. These are just a few examples of how Islamic extremism can influence Mideast politics.

In 2011, a gigantic change in Egyptian politics occurred, similar to what happened in Iran’s 1979 Revolution.

For 30 years, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak had resisted the radicals and was a friend to Israel and the U.S., following the policy of his predecessor Anwar Sadat. Mubarak resisted the radical Muslims in their violence toward Israel and other nations. He was a powerful ally in helping America, Britain and Israel in their war against terror. He fought against Iran getting the nuclear bomb. And President Mubarak exerted the power needed inside Egypt to control his strongest opponent, the violent
Muslim Brotherhood. Still our leaders seemed to have no real concept of what he had to deal with every day. When demonstrations exploded in Cairo in January 2011, President Barack Obama made it clear he sided with the anti-Mubarak protesters on the street. In spite of Mubarak’s positive fruits, the U.S. administration set out to humiliate him publicly from the beginning of the massive demonstrations in Egypt! America utterly betrayed a friend of 30 years. The result? America’s influence in the Middle East has plummeted to near zero! Just weeks later, Mubarak was ousted, the nation’s government became destabilized, and Iran began moving in.

Daniel 11:42 implies that Egypt will be allied with the king of the south, or Iran. This prophecy indicates there will be a far-reaching change in Egyptian politics! We had been saying since 1994 this would occur, and look at Egypt today. The nation’s foreign policy and political orientation is visibly changing in a way that threatens to transform the region.

Even in 2007, the relationship between Iran and Egypt had started warming up considerably, with the two countries edging toward restoring full diplomatic relations with each other. In January 2008, Mubarak held talks with Iran’s parliament speaker, the first such high-level meeting in almost 30 years. The fact that Mubarak himself held this meeting indicated how much pressure he was under from pro-Iranian forces within his country. After his departure, those pro-Iranian forces took control. Although that control was subsequently wrested from them, Bible prophecy shows this is temporary. Through these events, the pro-Iranian forces galvanized Egypt’s hard-liners and showed the world that they are a force capable of ruling Egypt.

Before Mubarak left office, he issued this warning: “They may be talking about democracy, but the result will be extremism and radical Islam.” Yes, indeed; that is what
we saw! The extremist Muslim Brotherhood, the largest and most well-organized political organization in Egypt, took control of the country. One of its leaders, Mohamed Morsi, then became president.

In 2011, the New York Times wrote, “The Muslim Brotherhood, an Islamist group once banned by the state, is at the forefront transformed into a tacit partner with the military government that many fear will thwart fundamental changes.

“It is also clear that the young, educated, secular activists who initially propelled the non-ideological revolution are no longer the driving political force .... [W]hat surprises many is [the Muslim Brotherhood’s] link to the military that vilified it. …

“’There is evidence the Brotherhood struck some kind of a deal with the military early on,’ said Elijah Zarwin, a senior analyst with the International Crisis Group. ‘It makes sense if you are the military. You want stability and people off the street. The Brotherhood is one address where you can go to get 100,000 people off the street.’ …

“The question at the time was whether the Brotherhood would move to take charge with a superior organizational structure. It now appears that it has” (March 24, 2011).

The Muslim Brotherhood took charge because it’s so organized and so heavily supported by Iran! Are we blind to what Iran is able to do with its power behind the scenes as it empowers these other groups? This is almost step by step exactly the way it happened in Iran in 1979.

Many people in the West hope to see Egypt transform into a picture of democracy and peace. But what do the Egyptian people want? A major survey by the Pew Research Center in 2010 showed that the people of Egypt have no interest in Western-style democracy. They actually want strict Islamic rule.
Look at these results from the Pew poll:

- Fully 85 percent of Muslims in Egypt want a strong Islamic influence in the nation’s politics.
- Nearly the same number say those who leave the Muslim faith should be killed for it.
- Eighty-two percent support stoning adulterers, and 77 percent think thieves should have their hands cut off.
- Well over half would support segregating women from men in the workplace.
- Fifty-four percent believe suicide bombings that murder civilians can be justified.
- Nearly half have a “favorable view” of the terrorist group Hamas, and 3 in 10 are positive toward Hezbollah. One fifth of Egyptians even hold positive views of al Qaeda and Osama bin Laden.

Among the 18 Muslim nations Pew surveyed, Egypt had the highest unfavorable rating toward America: 82 percent of Egyptians dislike the U.S.

A powerful Mubarak was able to control or contain the more extreme views of his own people. But that dam was broken when he resigned.

Even though President Morsi was ousted in a coup d’état by Gen. Abdel Fattah al-Sisi in July 2013, the Muslim Brotherhood still enjoys tremendous support in Egypt. Sisi’s coup was successful primarily because Egyptians were disgruntled by the Muslim Brotherhood’s economic policies—not necessarily its Islamist ideology. Under Sisi, Egypt’s economic fortunes have not improved; in some areas like tourism, they have worsened.

Many in Israel and the West have underestimated the influence of the Muslim Brotherhood and the popular support for anti-Israel policies. Muslim movements organized by the Muslim Brotherhood are receiving a surge of support throughout Egypt. Sisi’s coup notwithstanding, no
new leader could ever get the power to resist such strong beliefs of the Egyptian people. This all plays into the hands of Iran and its strong ties to the Muslim Brotherhood.

The Muslim Brotherhood’s rule under Morsi exploited the pro-Iranian sentiment on the street and boosted its momentum. Morsi’s government quickly made efforts to restore diplomatic ties with Iran. In March 2011, Egypt announced it wanted to “open a new page” with Iran. Tehran responded by appointing an ambassador to Egypt for the first time since the two nations halted diplomatic relations in 1978. The Egyptian government also reached out to Hamas, an Iran-backed Palestinian Islamist organization Cairo had previously shunned.

This prophecy in Daniel 11:42 is moving toward fulfillment right before our eyes in this end time, and it is mainly because of Iran’s “push” toward radical Islam. But that pushy foreign policy will lead to its downfall in a way that most people cannot imagine!

WILL LIBYA AND ETHIOPIA BE NEXT?

The two nations of Libya and Ethiopia are mentioned in Daniel 11:43, along with Egypt. These two nations are the key that unlocks the strategy of radical Islam. That strategy is going to shake the U.S. and Europe to their foundations!

“But he [the king of the north] shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps” (Daniel 11:43). Why did God inspire the mentioning of Libya and Ethiopia? Every word in God’s inspired Bible has significance. God placed two nations in
the same verse as Egypt for a definite reason. This verse states that Libya and Ethiopia are also going to be closely allied with Iran!

Here is how the Soncino Commentary defines *at his steps*: “Either joining his army or placing themselves at his beck and call.”

The Gesenius’ Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon defines that expression as “in his company.”

The Moffatt translation reads this way: “following in his train.”

So you need to watch Libya and Ethiopia. They are about to fall under the heavy influence or control of Iran, the king of the south. That is why they are subdued in the king of the north victory.

Why would Iran be so interested in getting some measure of control over Libya and Ethiopia? To me, the answer is intriguing.

All you need to do is get a good map of the Middle East, with the emphasis on the Mediterranean Sea and the Red
Sea. Then you can see why the king of the south, or radical Islam, is so interested in an alliance with or control over these two countries (as well as Egypt and Tunisia). They are on the two seas that comprise the most important trade route in the world!

Whoever heavily influences or controls Ethiopia will undoubtedly also control the small areas of Eritrea and Djibouti on the Red Sea coastline. These areas only recently became independent of Ethiopia. Also, I believe the Bible view is that these small areas are included as a part of Ethiopia.

Controlling the Suez Canal is not enough. Egypt tried that in 1956, when Britain, France and Israel kicked it out in one attack. But what if you have radical Islamic nations along this sea trade route with real airpower—including missiles?

That could give Iran virtual control of the trade through those seas. Radical Islam could stop the flow of essential oil to the U.S. and Europe!

Iran could also potentially get control of Jerusalem, its third-holiest site. I believe Jerusalem is more important to Iran than the oil is. The Islamic people have fought the Catholic Crusades for about 1,500 years over control of Jerusalem. Bible prophecy says one final crusade is about to erupt.

Iran conquering Jerusalem would SUDDENLY galvanize the whole Islamic world! It would spread radical Muslim influence to many countries outside the Middle East. It could lead to dangerous rioting and terror in Europe, Asia and even America.

The soon-coming Holy Roman Empire—a superpower with 10 kings, dominated by Catholicism and led by the most deceptive and aggressive Germany ever—realizes that Arab fervor could spread like wildfire. Many Catholics consider Jerusalem their most important religious site.
If Iran gets control of that trade route, it could create enormous damage and chaos in America and Europe almost overnight. Germany and the Vatican, the heart of the Holy Roman Empire, are not going to allow the king of the south to get control of Jerusalem and the world’s number one trade route!

I did a Key of David television program on January 27, 2011, where I asked viewers to watch Libya and Ethiopia because of the new understanding I had received. There was almost nothing in the news about Libya at that time. The nation seemed stable.

Less than one month later, a civil war began. Libyan dictator Muammar Qadhafi was deposed and murdered later that year. The North African nation has been extremely chaotic ever since. It has experienced multiple terrorist attacks, violent mass demonstrations, loose arms on the streets, assassinations, abductions of politicians and their relatives, chaotic elections and sackings and resignations of high-ranking government officials. On September 11, 2012, terrorists in lawless Benghazi in northern Libya assassinated U.S. Ambassador Christopher Stevens.

You need to continue to watch for Libya and Ethiopia to make a severe and rapid turn into the radical Islamic camp.

The king of the south is going to push at the king of the north, probably from its trade route power. That push will be a dramatic act of war! The Holy Roman Empire will respond with an all-out whirlwind attack—and Iran and radical Islam will fall immediately.

Arab-Iranian control over the Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea could be the real reason the U.S. is not involved in this Mideast war in Daniel 11. Our economy is shaky, the dollar is extremely weak, and Iran could threaten or even cut off all our oil and wreck the U.S. economy to keep America out of the war.
The prophecy about Libya and Ethiopia unlocks Iran’s military strategy! We wrote over 20 years ago about Iran’s global ambitions. They have only intensified since that time.

IRAN’S GLOBAL AMBITIONS

A Stratfor intelligence brief dated August 22, 2003, explained that in May of that year, following what was seen as a decisive allied military victory in Iraq, the surrounding countries, including Saudi Arabia, Syria and Iran, saw the U.S. as the “ascendant power in the region” and recognized the need to accommodate U.S. demands. However, as events on the ground changed and stability in Iraq deteriorated, these nations began to see things differently. The U.S. was no longer seen as the ascendant force—it was seen as weak and needing help. This change had the most impact on Iran, which strongly influences the Shiites in Iraq.

Stratfor stated, “[I]f the Iranians start to believe that the situation in the region is out of control from the U.S. point of view, then either their price for keeping the lid on the Shiites will become astronomical or, more likely, they will decide not to bet on what they see as the losing horse.” I believe that Iran is more aggressive in this scenario than Stratfor does.

“The situation in the region is, in our view, reaching the crisis stage for the United States,” Stratfor continued. “Things are going very wrong for the Bush administration. The threat of an Islamist rising from the Mediterranean to the Persian Gulf no longer is an interesting theoretical concept. [This influence and control would even extend beyond the Mediterranean, into North Africa.] Except for Jordan, it is becoming a reality.” The reality of an Iran-led
Islamist rising throughout the region has grown dramatically in the years since Stratfor wrote those words! That is because still no one has effectively confronted Iran!

Saddam Hussein was definitely a terrorist threat. But the primary source of terrorism is Iran. Decisive action in Iraq, without dealing with Iran, will not stop the terrorism.

The real power behind the Palestinians is Iran. No other nation would dare finance and blatantly encourage such terrorism in Israel. Iran has even been caught publicly sending enormous amounts of weapons to the Palestinians. Virtually the whole world knows what Iran is doing, and Israel's terrorist problem keeps rapidly getting worse.

Israel is losing its war with the terrorists, and so will the U.S. and Britain. Such terrorism will tear any free society apart. Israel is a classic example.

The only way to win such a war is to deal with the main source of the terrorism, or cut off the head of the terrorist snake. But neither the U.S. nor Israel has the will to tackle Iran—even though it is the key part of the “axis of evil” in the Middle East.

In 2002, then President George W. Bush labeled Iran, Iraq and North Korea an “axis of evil.” Iraq’s government has been toppled. However, we can’t win this war unless we also remove Iran’s leadership. But American and British leaders lack the understanding and courage to win. And the press is dangerously pacifist. Our peoples lack the will to win this war against terrorism.

President Bush’s labeling of the axis of evil was absolutely correct. Nevertheless, he was attacked by the liberal politicians and press for that statement. That painfully illustrates America’s dangerous lack of willpower.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair’s government fell, in no small part, because of his support for the Iraq War. After such a display by Britain’s military in Iraq, the people
should have embraced Mr. Blair. But the British (and American) people are too weak to fight a real war. We lack the will to win a bloody, protracted war.

The *fruits* and *evidence* of the past two decades overwhelmingly prove where the king of state-sponsored terrorism is! The whole world can see that. However, the solution to terrorism lies in doing something about it! We must confront the source. The terrorist movement flows from Iran.

Mr. Armstrong said over four decades ago that “America has won its last war.” He saw then that the pride in our military power had been broken!

The entire geographic area that Stratfor discussed is now strongly influenced by Iran. The more Iraq falls to this terrorist nation, the more Iran virtually controls this whole area—which contains most of the world’s oil!

But the situation gets even scarier.

**REGIONAL HEGEMONY**

Back in 1992, the *New York Times* wrote, “Becoming second to Saudi Arabia as a world oil power, Iran expects to further its greater ambition of being the most important regional power in the Persian Gulf, a long-held foreign-policy objective” (Nov. 7, 1992).

The article examined how Iran planned to achieve this objective: “More troubling to other countries in the area and to the West is the other side of Iran’s plan to achieve this objective: A huge rearmament program, financed largely by the new oil money.”

The *Islamic Affairs Analyst* of Gloucester, England, printed an article in August 1994 that said “Iran is pursuing a parallel policy of surrounding Israel with implacable enemies.” Turkey is moving closer to Iran. To Israel’s north,
Iran has deluged Hezbollah in Lebanon with money and weapons. With Hamas in control of Gaza, Tehran could ignite another conflict on Israel's western and northern borders at any moment. Iran is also opening another front in the West Bank, which crawls with zealots sympathetic to if not in the pay of Iran. And Egypt, since the ouster of President Mubarak, is moving rapidly toward discarding its peace treaty with Israel as it moves into Iran's camp.

Of course, the Shiites control Iran and are a majority (60 percent) in Iraq. The U.S.'s removal of Saddam Hussein in 2003 opened the way for Iran to heavily infiltrate Iraq, providing armaments, financing and training to Shiite militias, sending thousands of operatives into the country and establishing economic ties with it. Moreover, the most powerful political party in Iraq is allied with Tehran. This could be a decisive factor causing Iraq to fall under Iran's control.

That 1994 *Islamic Affairs Analyst* article said further, “Starting at the foot of the Red Sea, Iran is set to increase its influence considerably in both Somalia and Yemen. … Further up the Red Sea coast, Sudan is already firmly in pro-Iranian hands with [Omar Hassan] al-Bashir’s military regime no more than a front for Hassan al-Tourabi’s Islamists. And it is from bases in Sudan that Islamist fundamentalists are beginning to undermine the stability of the newly independent Eritrea, which, it should be noted, now controls all of what was formerly Ethiopia’s Red Sea coastline.”

These trends continue today. Iran has continued to send arms shipments to Islamists in Somalia. In March 2008, Iran signed a military agreement with Sudan. In May 2008, it further boosted its ties with Eritrea, signing trade and investment agreements. Again, the following year, in April 2009, Iran and Eritrea, together with Algeria, agreed to expand their bilateral cooperation. Iran has a frightening influence and control in North Africa, which
greatly intensified with the unrest that began erupting in Arab states in early 2011. The Tunisian government fell in January into the hands of the radical Muslims. The Ennahda party, the Islamist party banned under the dictatorship of Zine al-Abidine Ben Ali, quickly emerged as probably the most powerful political force in the country. In October 2011, the Islamist party won the nation’s first free elections since independence in 1956. That is almost exactly what happened in Egypt when its first-ever free elections ushered in the Muslim Brotherhood in 2012. However, it didn’t take long before discontent surged against the hardliner Ennahda. Assassinations of two prominent opposition figures in 2013 threatened another revolution in Tunisia. It was only averted when rival factions negotiated a peaceful abdication of the elected Islamist government. Tunisia then elected the secular-nationalist Nidaa Tounes Party. Its candidate, Beji Caid Essebsi, became president. Essebsi, however, is a former official of the ousted Ben Ali regime. He has come under fire for Tunisia’s failing economy and for terrorist attacks that have crippled Tunisia’s tourism industry. Again, it is a scenario not much different from Egypt’s.

Iran has also heavily infiltrated Yemen and Bahrain, and it is deeply entrenched in Afghanistan. Many moderate Arab nations fear, and are afraid to offend, Iran.

Here is what the Islamic Affairs Analyst of May 13, 1992, said: “The main strategic aim of Iran is to dominate the Persian Gulf and environs. An important step in achieving this goal is to gain undisputed leadership of the radical Islamic camp.” Many of the good intelligence reports about Iran have proven true. Do we see just how powerful Iran is becoming militarily?

Prof. Barry Rubin wrote in 2007, “Iran tries to extend its influence in three ways: propaganda and incitement; the promotion of client groups, and projecting the state’s
own power. Today, Iran sponsors radical Islamist groups in Afghanistan, Iraq, Lebanon, and among the Palestinians as well as in other countries. Its two most important clients are Hezbollah in Lebanon and the Palestinian Hamas group” (Global Politician, July 25, 2007).

THE WORST FOREIGN-POLICY BLUNDER IN AMERICAN HISTORY

One of the most worrying aspects of Iran’s growing power is its flirtation with nuclear weaponry. Iran has had a nuclear program of its own for many years. Information leaks have shown that Iran, while publicly stating that its program is purely for energy use, actually wants other nations to know it could be a nuclear threat. In May 2011, the International Atomic Energy Agency reported that Iran had worked on developing a trigger for a nuclear bomb. Yet the U.S. “superpower” has not only allowed Iran to continue sponsoring violent terrorism, it has, through a nuclear accord negotiated in 2015, virtually guaranteed that Iran will become a nuclear-armed state!

January 16, 2016 marked the implementation of the nuclear deal with Iran. The U.S. and the European Union lifted sanctions on Iran, released over $100 billion in frozen assets, and welcomed Iran into a whole rush of economic deals. And they received nothing in return.

Iran changed nothing in its policies of aggression, subversion and sponsoring terrorism. It didn’t even say it would reform in any of these areas! Without giving in on anything, Iran was given all it needed in order to greatly accelerate its race toward getting the nuclear bomb.

This deal did not make the world safer—it was a disaster for the world! There is abundant evidence that
diplomacy with a maniacal nation like Iran will never succeed.

On the very day the sanctions were lifted, Iran announced the purchase of 114 Airbus planes from European nations.

Why was Iran so eager to jump into major business deals with Europe? Because it wants to get so involved in the global economy that nobody would dare try to push it back out. It rushed into the Airbus deal because it is rushing to build the bomb at the same time! And it doesn’t want anyone hindering its progress, as happened before with the sanctions regimes.

The Obama administration has said it will implement “snapback sanctions” if it finds that the Iranians are cheating on the deal. But with Iran having instantly become so intertwined with the economies of nations in Europe and elsewhere, it would be virtually impossible for America to “snap back” any sanctions.

Will Iran cheat? History says yes. When has it not cheated after making a significant agreement with the West?

Anybody with common sense knows you should not negotiate with nations that yearn for your destruction. America negotiated with the worst terrorist-sponsoring nation on Earth, and invited it into the community of nations. Is this leading to peace? Read Jeremiah 30:7 and Daniel 12:1 to see where it is leading. Nuclear bombs and weapons of mass destruction are about to be put to use on a scale this world has never seen!

ASSOCIATION WITH NUCLEAR NORTH KOREA

In 1994, then U.S. President Bill Clinton made some statements about North Korea that sound very much like those
President Obama made regarding Iran: “This agreement is good for the United States, good for our allies, and good for the safety of the entire world. Under the agreement, North Korea has agreed to freeze its existing nuclear program and to accept international inspection of all existing facilities. This agreement represents the first step on the road to a nuclear-free North Korea. It does not rely on trust. Compliance will be certified by the International Atomic Energy Agency.”

Despite President Clinton’s assurances, North Korea got the bomb 12 years later!

This history is more than just an ominous sign for the current nuclear deal. After North Korea went nuclear, it started helping Iran with nuclear development!

In a January 21, 2016, article for the Jerusalem Post, Melanie Phillips explained: “There are some who believe [Iran] already has [a nuclear bomb], or at least already has access to nuclear weapons having outsourced the testing of the bomb to North Korea. Iran is now pondering how to use the weapon to maximum destructive effect and without leaving its fingerprints on it.”

In other words, Iran may be working with North Korea so it can deploy a nuclear bomb in a way that prevents anyone from knowing where it came from! That is as deceptive and dangerous as it gets.

Iran’s connection to North Korea is something the Trumpet has watched for several years. In our November-December 2007 issue, I quoted some statements from a Spectator article titled “We Came So Close to World War III That Day”: “Israeli intelligence tracked a North Korean vessel carrying a cargo of nuclear material labeled ‘cement’ as it traveled halfway across the world. On September 3, the ship docked at the Syrian port of Tartus. … Soil samples and other material [Israeli commandos] collected [at the cargo’s
destination] were returned to Israel. Sure enough, they indicated that the cargo was nuclear. … Israeli F-15I jets were scrambled and, minutes later, the installation and its newly arrived contents were destroyed” (Oct. 3, 2007).

Who was behind that alarming event? “Syria is a surrogate of Iran,” I wrote. “The king of the Muslim world is Iran.”

At the time that I named Iran as the brains behind the North Korea-Syria operation, maybe it seemed like a stretch. But in March 2009, Gen. Ali Reza Asghari, a former Iranian deputy defense minister who had defected to the United States, provided a detailed account to the Associated Press proving that Iran was indeed behind North Korea’s moves to develop a nuclear weapons program on Syrian soil. Iran had financed and masterminded nearly the whole operation! Other reports have corroborated Asghari’s testimony.

Israeli jets made short work of those efforts back in 2007, but that did not end Iran-North Korea nuclear cooperation!

Phillips continued in her Jerusalem Post article: “I have no idea whether that is true. But given Iran’s close association with the North Korean nuclear program, with Iranian scientists and other personnel having been present at three of North Korea’s four nuclear tests at least, does anyone believe that it could not get the bomb from Pyongyang even if it has not already done so?”

Why were Iranian officials present for North Korea’s illegal nuclear weapons tests? Are the Iranians outsourcing their nuclear program, or at least parts of their nuclear bombs? It certainly appears that way. The Iranians are watching these tests for a reason.

“[M]aybe the Iranian nuclear negotiation was a blind from start to finish,” Phillips continued. “The real action was going on in North Korea while the dummies of the free world were looking the other way. The actual point of
the deal was to lift sanctions by appearing to give ground on the nuclear program in Iran itself—thus releasing those billions to ratchet up Tehran’s deniable, proxy war upon the rest of the world. Which, thanks to Obama, the UK government and the rest of the Western dummy class, Iran is now about to do.”

As Phillips said, we can’t be sure about all the details yet. But because of Iran’s extremist mind-set, we can be sure that the new deal with Iran is far worse than the one America made back in 1994 with North Korea!

**EMBRACING DEATH**

For some proof of that, consider this statement from an Iranian 11th-grade schoolbook, quoting the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini: “I am decisively announcing to the whole world that if the world devourers wish to stand against our religion, we will stand against their whole world and will not cease until the annihilation of all of them! Either we all become free or we will go to the greater freedom, which is martyrdom. Either we shake one another’s hands in joy at the victory of Islam in the world, or all of us will turn to eternal life and martyrdom. In both cases, victory and success are ours.”

Khomeini referred to the West as “world devourers”! Eighty-five percent of 81 million Shiites in Iran believe in Twelver Shiism, which Khomeini espoused. This is an ideology that embraces death.

Former Israeli Ambassador to the United Nations Dore Gold said that a nuclear Iran can’t be deterred like the Soviet Union was during the Cold War. The Iranians have a much more radical belief system. They think their savior—the 12th imam, or mahdi—will return sooner if they cause more apocalyptic chaos and violence. As Gold
pointed out: “[A]nyone who says with confidence that the West can get used to nuclear Iran and rely on classic deterrence models has absolutely no idea what he is up against.”

Another alarming event occurred on January 16, 2016, that should have opened the eyes of naive Western leaders to the danger of the Iranian mind-set. Iran’s supreme leader said the country’s aggressively anti-American and anti-Israel policy will continue unchanged. Two days later, Iran ordered its military to accelerate its illegal missile program.

This intercontinental ballistic missile program is illegal because the new deal says Iran has to wait eight years before speeding it up. Instead Iran is accelerating it immediately! These missiles are capable of carrying nuclear warheads. And Iran’s supreme leader says they have no intention of reforming any aspect of their hateful policies. The missile announcement is proof that Iran is already breaking a big part of the agreement. But the West mostly turned a blind eye to that.

What the U.S. has done is truly stunning. President Clinton worked to make Germany the lead nation in Europe, or the “king of the north” in biblical terminology (Daniel 11:40). (You can prove this by requesting and reading our free booklet Germany’s Conquest of the Balkans.) Now the Obama administration is doing the same thing to strengthen Iran and to crown it “king of the south.” How can we possibly make any sense out of America’s foreign policy?

THE PUSH

Regarding an issue where Iran asserted its authority in a territorial claim in Persian Gulf waters in 1993, the Washington Report on Middle East Affairs wrote, “Apparently the Iranians are calculating exactly how far they can push
their neighbors …” (June 1993). That same pushy approach was demonstrated when in March 2007 Iran captured 15 British seamen in Iraqi waters and held them for 13 days. On January 12, 2016, just four days before the implementation of the nuclear deal, Iran humiliated the U.S. Navy by holding some of its sailors hostage at gunpoint. Iran did this supposedly because the naval vessels had drifted into Iranian waters. One of two small boats had broken down as the sailors moved between Kuwait and Bahrain in the Persian Gulf. Iran took these U.S. sailors hostage, paraded their humiliation before the world, and demanded an apology from them. It was a strong power play. The mullahs sent an ominous message to the world: You can’t rely on America for protection and support anymore—especially in the Middle East. We are now in charge here.

The stage is being set for an Islamic group of nations to be led by Iran as the prophesied king of the south, which will push at the king of the north, the European Union. “And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over” (Daniel 11:40). Let’s not forget that this is an end-time prophecy.

Iran has a foreign policy with a lot of “push.” And since the end of its war with Iraq in 1988, Iran has accumulated a massive arsenal of weapons to back up its aggressive foreign policy, and that arsenal includes chemical and biological weapons.

The king of the south, or Iran, is going to “push at him”—that is, the king of the north (the European Union). Gesenius’ Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon says the word push means “to strike—used of horned animals,” or “to push with the horn.” It is “used figuratively of a victor who
prostrates the nations before him.” It also means to wage war. *Push* is a violent word! This *push* no doubt revolves around Jerusalem and biblical Judah (called Israel today)—just as the clashes in the time of the Crusades did. That city is the third-most holy city in the Islamic world. Pope John Paul II spoke publicly of possibly moving the Roman Catholic Church headquarters there.

These two great and powerful religions both passionately desire Jerusalem. Most people believe the Israeli peace process and other similar negotiations are leading to peace. Actually they are leading to war!

The blatantly bold and aggressive foreign policy of Iran must lead to war. It will either conquer or be conquered. Bible prophecy makes it clear that Iran will be conquered—but not at the hand of America and Britain. These latter two countries are going to fall into social and economic ruin before this prophecy is even fulfilled.

If that is not true, then why isn’t America leading, or at least involved in, this prophesied war?

A *new superpower* is rising in the European Union. The Bible labels this conglomerate the *king* of the north. It takes one *king* to topple another *king*.

The time when Britain and America were superpowers, or kings, is history! And we need to understand why.

Can we see this new European superpower rising on the world scene now? Yes, we can. You can get a good insight into it by watching Germany and France. Britain and America defeated Germany in two world wars. Then they led the Germans in rebuilding their powerful nation—especially after World War II. Britain and America saved France in both world wars.

France and Germany both have every reason to be close friends with America and Britain. But the opposite is true! Media headlines are showing us that daily. Believe it or not,
God is raising up that European power to punish America and Britain. (To see how, request our free booklet *Germany and the Holy Roman Empire.*)

**HISTORY LESSONS UNLEARNED**

Middle East peace treaties dominate the news—as all kinds of peace treaties did just before World War II began! It is just another major sign that war is about to explode in the Middle East! And it will lead to World War III.

Being spellbound by peace treaties has kept the Western world from fully seeing and recognizing Iran's massive plot to control the Middle East. That will never be stopped by a peace treaty! Only a superior power could ever stop this extreme Islamic movement! The most precious jewel of Iran's plan is to conquer Jerusalem. This would then galvanize the Islamic world behind Iran! It will go far in its ambition but never fully conquer Jerusalem.

How could I possibly know this? If Iran or radical Islam were to conquer Jerusalem, then we would look very ignorant. But your Bible says it will *not* happen. However, the Bible also states that another specific power will conquer Jerusalem.

Such statements should cause you to prove why we can make these prophetic statements and watch them come to pass exactly as we said. You need to prove what we say—while there is time!

President Bush and Prime Minister Blair had the vision to see that our nations can't win the war against terrorism without using our power! They attempted to restrict Iran's influence by toppling the governments of Afghanistan and Iraq, but even they didn't want to take on Iran.

Most of our politicians, the press and our universities do *not* understand terrorism—nor do they understand
history! Winston Churchill said that “the history of man is war.” Misinformed people like to believe that is not true.

Superpowers cannot survive in this evil, warring world without the will to wage long, hard wars. This is the real world in which we live; fantasies won’t change that reality.

In the 1930s, Winston Churchill warned Britain and America about Hitler. The politicians, media and educational institutions were overwhelmingly pacifist and against him. (This is thoroughly explained in our free booklet *Winston S. Churchill: The Watchman.*) In fact, he stood alone among world leaders! And it almost cost us victory in World War II! We have learned virtually nothing from Churchill’s warning. In fact, the pacifists have grown much stronger today.

Any nation or bloc of nations that knocks off the number one superpower becomes the number one superpower! This is the lesson of human nature and of our history books. A superpower can’t run and hide.

Our leaders fail to understand history because they refuse to understand that evil human nature is within every individual on Earth—including you and me! (Jeremiah 17:9). For example, our refusal to use our military might is often not righteousness, as we like to believe, but despicable weakness resulting from our sins. We simply lack the faith, character and courage to fight against Iran, the number one terrorist nation today. In the end, we will prove too weak to survive!

The king of the south is about state-sponsored terrorism. That is how Iran became king! Daniel 11:40-43 is an end-time prophecy. It is about a nation that is always pushy in its foreign policy. It pushes until it starts a war. Having such power means that it must be a large oil-producing country. Prophecy shows that this king is close to Jerusalem, Egypt, Ethiopia and Libya.
Who else could it be in this end time but Iran?

Iran is extremely radical—the king over radical Islam. Where is this nation’s pushiness leading? To war! Just as it has in the past. It’s leading to terrifying war with weapons of mass destruction. It can lead no place else.

A basic understanding of human nature and history should tell us that. All the wishful thinking in this world won’t stop that calamity—just as the pacifist dreamers of the 1930s didn’t stop Adolf Hitler!

**HISTORY THUNDERS FOR US TO AWAKEN.**

The great Russian writer Fyodor Dostoyevsky feared Russian *radicalism* and what it would do to his country. Only days after he died, the czar was killed and overthrown by radicals. Where did their radical movement lead? To Joseph Stalin and the spread of violent communism over much of the world.

So where is Iranian radical thinking leading Iran? To state-sponsored terrorism—which is going to trigger a nuclear World War III! At this point, we have ample power to stop it but not the will.

We fear facing the *origin* of state-sponsored terrorism in the Middle East. We can never win the war against terrorism without dealing with this reality. We can’t *negotiate* a victory. Only *superior power*, and the *will to use it*, can win. That is the *only* way to stop state-sponsored terrorism.

“And if ye will not yet for all this hearken unto me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins. And I will break the pride of your power; and I will make your heaven as iron, and your earth as brass” (Leviticus 26:18-19). The Prophet Daniel related that this is an end-time prophecy (Daniel 12:9; 9:12-14). Little Israel has more military might than Iran but fears to use it. The same is the case with Britain. And certainly that is true of America. But our nations fear to use their power—because of our sins. The
“pride of [our] power” has been broken! We simply lack the will to sustain our war against terrorism.

We are fighting the terrorist war the way state-sponsored terrorists want to fight it—which means we can never win. They understand that they will win fighting the war their way. That is why they are waging this war of terror! Terrorist warfare would be a failure if we had the will to use our power against state-sponsored terrorism.

Nations must be held accountable and responsible for sponsoring terrorism. How dare any nation finance or support terrorism in another nation!

Most of the intelligence reports reveal that Saudi Arabia heavily finances terrorism in Israel (and even against the U.S.). Why? It is because Saudis fear the terrorists more than they fear the American “superpower”!

A real superpower simply would not allow such treachery. It is an act of war to finance terrorists! The supporters of terrorism are more guilty than the terrorists. They make it all possible.

If America and Britain held the terrorist-supporting nations accountable, we would drain the terrorist swamp. If the Iranian leadership were eliminated, the whole course of Mideast history would change radically for the better, because it is the king. Sadly, Bible prophecy reveals that will not happen.

Our ultimate success will be determined by our relationship with God. If God is for us, we can’t lose. But if God is against us, we can’t win. And Bible prophecy relates that God is against us and is cursing us.

After having toppled Saddam Hussein, America had a marvelous opportunity to pressure Iran.

Syria would quickly cave in if Iran were beaten or forced to stop supporting terrorism. So would other Islamic nations.
Instead, Syria and Iran see how divided we are at home. The Blair and Bush governments became enormously unpopular—simply because they did have the will to use our power! Prime Minister Blair was pushed from office, and President Bush left amid a storm of hateful criticism. The terrorist nations see our shameful division and weakness and are encouraged to support terrorism even more!

The pride in our power has been broken!

So brace yourself for a terrifying future.

All we have to do is look at Israel. Can Israel win its war against terrorism? Iran and other nations keep arming the endless stream of terrorists. The only way to turn it around is to stop Iran.

President Bush said that terrorist attacks come, not because of our strength, but because we are perceived to be weak. But it is more than a perception of weakness. We are weak.

Iran and terrorists are preying on our weakness. State-sponsored terrorism exists because of our weakness!

This nightmare, however, is leading directly to the return of Jesus Christ. That is the best possible news this world could ever hear! This evil world of terrorism and war is about to end forever. It will soon be replaced by a world full of prosperity and peace.

**IS IRAQ ABOUT TO FALL TO IRAN?**

Iran is the most powerful Islamic country in the Middle East. Can you imagine the power it would have if it gained control of Iraq, which was at one time the third-leading exporter of oil in the world? I predicted as far back as 1992 that this could happen.

Here is what I wrote in December of 1994: “Such a takeover [of Iraq] by Iran would shock the world—especially
Europe. It would be a strong impetus for Europe to unite quickly. Such a move would, in all likelihood, give Iran power to cause a sizable increase in the price of oil. [In reality, it would then control virtually all of the Middle East oil.] This could help trigger a collapse of the Western world’s weak currencies. This in turn could cause Europe to quickly unite into the most powerful economic bloc in the world. That very event is prophesied to occur in your own Bible!” (“Is Iraq About to Fall to Iran?”, Philadelphia Trumpet).

You should read that paragraph again!

The way events have unfolded since that time have opened the way for that scenario to be fulfilled even more dramatically than I imagined.

In 2003, the United States eliminated the leadership of Iraq. Saddam Hussein was the only leader that Iran feared. The U.S. took him out of the way, but it did not have the will to guard the spoils of war. America agreed to withdraw all its troops from Iraq by the end of 2011.

The U.S. effectively cleared the way for Shiite Iran to rule over Shiite Iraq!

It was the U.S. that overpowered Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic in 1999’s Kosovo War. He was the only leader in Europe that Germany feared.

The staggering paradox may be that U.S. power cleared the way for both the king of the north and the king of the south—and ultimately paved the way for its own destruction.

The New York Times of May 1, 2003, said, “In recent weeks, there has been a steady trickle of intelligence reports about efforts by Iran to influence and shape events inside Iraq.

“Iran, in the view of American analysts, does not welcome a strong American role in Iraq, which would extend American political and military influence in the region.
“Under this assessment, Iran is not looking to confront American forces but to influence events so that the United States fails in its effort to shape Iraq and decides to leave.” Events have since shown how true this assessment was.

Certain aspects of the Iraq campaign exposed American weakness. And though the Bush administration vowed not to allow an Iranian-style theocracy to gain hold in Iraq, it lacked the political will to see that pledge through. Iran already has great influence within the government in Iraq. The Iraqi government under Shiite Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki had good relations with Iran, and the support of Iran-backed anti-American Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr was critical for Maliki to form a government in 2010 after a nine-month impasse.

Maliki's successor, Haidar al-Abadi, is also a Shiite with strong Iranian connections. He was appointed prime minister in August 2014, and two months later visited Iran during his first foreign trip. “Choosing Iran as my first destination after taking office indicates the depth of ties,” Abadi said, according to the Islamic Republic News Agency. “Terrorism is a threat to all regional countries, and we are sure Iran will stand by us.”

Three days prior to the visit, former military commander of Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, Kanani Moghadam, said in an interview with China Central Television, “The more aid to Iraq from Iran, the less dependent Iraq will be on allied forces. Iraq is likely to resist the allies' request to build military bases in the country. Iraq's parliament is discussing whether or not to allow the allies to deploy ground troops, which has also become a red line. Therefore, the meeting of Abadi with the Iranian leaders is very important and decisive.”

Iran is effectively using the threat of Islamic State terrorists to justify its continued meddling in Iraq. Ali
Khedery, a strategic consultant who advised several U.S. ambassadors in Iraq, warned that the Islamic State “will be defeated. The problem is that afterwards, there will still be a dozen militias, hardened by decades of battle experience, funded by Iraqi oil, and commanded or at least strongly influenced by [Iran’s Revolutionary Guard Corps]. And they will be the last ones standing.”

The Bible shows that America will fail to contain Iran the way it hopes to.

It is clear that Iran is working every possible angle in order to extend its influence over the majority Shiite population in Iraq and assume control over its massive oil wealth.

Shortly after Baghdad was taken by coalition forces, it quickly became clear how much the Iranian Shiites had already made inroads into Iraq, even under Saddam Hussein’s dictatorship.

The intelligence group Stratfor wrote this in its War Diary of April 23, 2003: “The Shiite population is creating a serious administrative problem for the United States. This was partly expected, partly a surprise. The surprise is not to the extent of anti-Americanism but the extent of the organization. The Shiites are much better organized than U.S. intelligence believed. It is clear that their long-term goal is to govern Iraq. … [It was building toward that goal long before the U.S. attacked Iraq.]

“The United States cannot really crack down on the Shiites, and the Shiites know it. U.S. troops in riot control mode is not the image Washington wants. … In the end, the solution to this problem is likely in Tehran. The Iraqi Shiite community, to the extent to which it is organized, owes that organization to Iran. Iran’s goal is simple: Get the United States out of Iraq. Officials in Tehran do not expect this to happen immediately, but they do expect it to happen.” Tehran’s success is now almost complete.
Washington is in a dreadfully difficult position with respect to Iran. Rather than using Iraq as a new Middle East base from which to project power over Iran, the U.S. is forced to play nice with its new neighbor so as not to provoke it. In his 2002 State of the Union address, President Bush labeled Iran number two in the “axis of evil.” Right after Baghdad fell, threatening hints were dropped that Iran had better watch its step. Now Iran is being looked to as an ally to motivate the Iraqi Shiites into establishing order within the area of conquest!

The United States has even gone to the extent of sharing the Taqqadum military base, 70 miles west of Baghdad, with Iran. The U.S. first used this base when the Iraq War began in 2003. According to a June 22, 2015, Bloomberg View report based on revelations from two senior officials in the Obama administration, some of the militant groups at Taqqadum, such as Iraqi Hezbollah and the League of the Righteous, directly fought against the U.S. in the past.

Of course, Iran is working through standard political and diplomatic channels to position itself to be able to hold stock in the new Iraq, working with the Iraqi government, cementing economic ties and exploiting other diplomatic channels. But truly interesting were some of the steps the U.S. took in trying to secure its interests that demonstrated its dependence upon the Islamic regime.

One example was America’s approach to Shia militias. The public line was that the U.S. had “zero tolerance” for independent militias in Iraq. But coalition forces looked the other way as armed members of these militias policed southern Iraqi cities. According to a National Public Radio report of September 8, 2003, the Badr Brigade worked with U.S. forces, for example going on raids with them to track down Saddam supporters, and the Americans approved members of the brigade carrying weapons.
What was the Shiites’ price for helping the U.S.? Today, a Shiite-dominated government is in power in Iraq.

In a September 2003 interview with the IRNA news agency, former Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani gave a chilling version of these events: “Even though the United States has a physical presence in the countries that surround us, the reality is that the United States is in fact surrounded by Iran.”

Is this just bluster? Look at the situation honestly, and you can see that it is true! Iran has indeed “surrounded” America, because it is the king of terrorist-sponsoring nations!

Stratfor wrote of the extent of the growing Iranian influence in the Middle East amid the uprisings that swept the region in early 2011. “As Iran has reminded every U.S. ally in the region amid the recent unrest, from Bahrain to Saudi Arabia and from Yemen to Israel, Tehran is the rising power and the one filling the vacuum as the Americans leave. It is Tehran that has a strong, established network of proxies and covert operatives already in place in key positions across the region. It can foment unrest in Gaza or Lebanon that spills over into Israel; and it can at the very least exacerbate riots in Bahrain, the home of the U.S. 5th Fleet and which is on the doorstep to Saudi Arabia’s own Shiite population in the oil-rich east. Iran has done all of this while U.S. troops have remained in Iraq, and what it has achieved so far is only a foreshadowing (and intentionally so) of what might be possible if Persia dominated Mesopotamia, the natural stepping-stone to every other corner of the region. …

Due to the unrest of 2011, the American position in the Persian Gulf is worse than Washington might have imagined even at the end of 2010. Washington is left with the same unresolved question: What to do about Iran and Iranian power in the Middle East. For this, it has not found
a solution. The possible maintenance of a division of U.S. troops in Iraq would simply be a stopgap, not a solution. But even that looks increasingly inadequate as 2011 progresses, especially as American regional allies’ confidence in Washington has wavered” (April 14, 2011).

The United States officially withdrew its troops from Iraq in October 2011, though it still has a presence in the troubled nation. The prophecies we have been looking at show that the United States will not be a major player in the region for very much longer. And this king of the south will set its sights on another target—the king of the north.

**THE WHIRLWIND**

After the *push*, the king of the north will come at the king of the south like a “whirlwind” (Daniel 11:40). We have seen how the king of the south could *push* at the king of the north. And then Germany responds with a “whirlwind” attack. This one word prophesies how the German-led clash with Iran is going to unfold. It reveals *in detail* what is about to happen in the Middle East—and in Africa, southwest Asia and Europe.

The Germans are excellent war strategists and warriors. They are savvy enough to realize that they will never have peace with Iran. They know that sooner or later, their two religions—their two civilizations—will *clash*.

This scripture describes a time when Germany’s Catholic empire will wage all-out war, throwing everything it has at radical Islam—and *dominating* it like a violent flood pouring in!

Here is the question we need to focus on: How could Germany do this so easily, so effectively and so quickly?

Berlin will not be able to overwhelm Tehran in the near future unless it is working on a special strategy *right now.*
Think about the key word in Daniel 11:40. The verse talks about an attack from the king of the north, but the emphasis is on the strategy of this military attack.

If you’re in a whirlwind, it whirs all around you. It whirls you away! Even now, we can see that the German strategy is to surround Iran and its allies.

The Iranians are so focused on conquering their own
objectives that they don’t see what the Germans are doing. They don’t recognize how Germany is planning for the bigger war to come!

Germany has expected to clash with Iran, and it has been working on a strategy for a decade or more. That strategy is almost complete. Germany has surrounded Iran.

“Whirlwind” is a very revealing word in this verse. It means to sweep away in a storm, according to Gesenius’ Lexicon. It can mean “to bristle with terror.” It can also mean terror stricken, or shivering with fear, invoking the creeping of the skin of one who is terror stricken.

This word has an unusual emphasis on terror! Will this terrifying whirlwind be nuclear? It certainly will be terrorizing! And it’s about to explode in the Middle East. Finally the terrorists will become terrorized!

James Moffatt translates this verse, “When the end arrives, the king of the south shall butt at him, but the king of the north shall storm at him like a whirlwind, with chariots and cavalry and a large fleet, invading his lands and flooding into them.”

Soncino says “the king of the north … will swoop down.” This isn’t simply a straight-on assault. It is a storm that whirls around and around, invading the land and flooding into it!

If you study what is happening in the territory surrounding Iran today, you already see Germany all over it.

How, exactly, has the king of the north surrounded the king of the south? Its troops haven’t encircled Tehran. It doesn’t have bases and aircraft carriers dotting Iran’s borders. But it has made some very intelligent, very strategic deployments and deals that give it a presence all the way around Iran’s sphere of influence.

Iran is spreading its influence westward into Egypt and Libya. But across Libya’s western border lies Algeria. In
2011, Germany crafted a deal that sends $10.5 billion worth of military hardware to that country. It also has a personnel carrier plant there. It has a deal to manufacture rifles in Algeria. Berlin has connections even within Egypt and has sold it hundreds of millions of dollars in armaments.

To the southwest, Germany has a handful of soldiers and police officers in Sudan and South Sudan, and it has had a presence in Uganda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Much closer to Iran, directly across the Persian Gulf, lie the Arabian Peninsula nations. Germany has sold $2.6 billion in weapons to Qatar, including dozens of Leopard \( \text{II} \) tanks. It has sold $9.3 billion in weapons to the United Arab Emirates and built a munitions factory there.

Germany also worked on some massive deals with Saudi Arabia. Among them: Building a machine-gun factory there and sending the Saudis dozens of Eurofighters and hundreds of Leopard \( \text{II} \) tanks.

There are also German military personnel in Djibouti and Somalia. In the Arabian Sea, the Bundeswehr has a frigate and maritime surveillance planes.

At the peak of the war in Afghanistan, Germany had over 5,000 troops in Iran’s eastern neighbor.

Just north of Afghanistan is Uzbekistan. There, the German military operated an air base in Termez, with about 300 military staff plus transport aircraft. The base was closed in 2015, but, as the German ambassador to the nation announced in October that year, it will serve as a backup facility.

The king of the north also has a strong presence to Iran’s north. To the northwest, in the Mediterranean, lies Cyprus, a strategic military and intelligence asset. The terms that Germany dictated for Cyprus’s economic bailout in April 2013 basically gave the EU control of this island.
The Bundeswehr has 400 soldiers in Turkey, and for three years until December 2015, it deployed two anti-aircraft missile batteries in the nation. In addition, it has developed the nation into a massive weapons export market, selling Turkey 715 tanks, 687 armored personnel carriers, 300 air defense missile systems, 197 ground survey radar units, 8 frigates, 2 support ships and 15 submarines in the last two decades.

The German military has a patrol boat off Lebanon and dozens of soldiers on the ground. It also has the largest contingent in Kosovo—over 650 soldiers.

Why is Germany so involved, stretching over the Middle East and much of the world? It is preparing for a whirlwind of destruction.

Germany has surrounded Iran and radical Islam, just as God prophesied it would. Soon that whirlwind is going to start rotating and whirling against the king of the south like a well-armed—probably nuclear-armed—vortex!

This whirlwind strategy is about to explode into all-out war. In fact, it will spark World War III!

**ON TO JERUSALEM**

After war explodes in the Middle East, there will probably be a thunderous call for a peacekeeper in Jerusalem. The king of the north will no doubt take the job, but then quickly will continue its war-making! (Ezekiel 23 discusses a shameful double cross. Request our free book *Ezekiel: The End-Time Prophet*.)

Russia and China will then strike fear in the king of the north. “But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many” (Daniel 11:44). The king of the north will then be defeated. “And
he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him” (verse 45). Here we see a great religious leader—with “tabernacles of his palace”—moving his headquarters to Jerusalem. But he also will come to his end. Why?

Back in 1994, before the much-hyped millennial jubilee celebrations by the Vatican, Pope John Paul II made this statement: “We trust that with the approach of the year 2000, Jerusalem will become the city of peace for the entire world and that all the people will be able to meet there, in particular the believers in the religions that find their birthright in the faith of Abraham” (Parade, April 3, 1994).

The pope was very accurate in this statement: “Jerusalem will become the city of peace for the entire world,” but not the way he believes.

The Messiah will be here in the very near future. And He will bring peace to the entire world! That is one big reason there is so much violence over Jerusalem in this end time. Satan knows that God is going to rule the world, and even the universe, from Jerusalem. The Bible says we are about to see a religious clash that will stagger the world! This prophecy is yet to be fulfilled.

Of course, Satan hates this prophecy because at that time his rule over the earth will have ended (Isaiah 14:12-17, Ezekiel 28:18-19).

What a glorious future man has. And all of that glory is going to emanate from Jerusalem!
A Mysterious Alliance

Let’s look at a psalm that strongly indicates which countries will be allied with the king of the south. This prophecy lists several moderate Islamic nations that will ally themselves with Assur (Assyria), or modern-day Germany. Because this will happen after Germany and the European Union conquer the king of the south, we can deduce that these countries will not be destroyed in the “whirlwind” described in Daniel 11:40. In some cases, we can see that the work Germany is doing to prepare for its “whirlwind” strategy is already laying the groundwork for this future alliance.

“Keep not thou silence, O God: hold not thy peace, and be not still, O God. For, lo, thine enemies make a tumult: and they that hate thee have lifted up the head. They have taken crafty counsel against thy people [Israel], and consulted against thy hidden [or sheltered] ones” (Psalm 83:1-3). God’s “hidden ones” are His own chosen people that trust and obey Him. In the midst of these warring nations, God protects His people. As with many other biblical prophecies, we see God’s people in the spotlight.
The “enemies” refer to an Islamic alliance with the king of the north, which is about to attack the modern descendants of Israel. The victims are primarily America, Britain and Judah (the little nation called Israel today). Bible prophecy says the end-time nations of Israel are unusually fearful and gullible, like a “silly dove” (Hosea 7:8-12). Their enemies take advantage of their weaknesses to destroy them (Hosea 5:5). God only protects the nations of Israel from grave danger if they are obedient—which they are not in this end time.

This will be a deceitful alliance. “They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance” (Psalm 83:4). Their goal is to utterly destroy Israel—including America and Britain!

Former Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad vowed to wipe the Jewish nation off the map. But the enemies of Psalm 83 have what appears to be an even deeper hatred. They even want to obliterate the biblical name of Israel forever!

This prophecy gives us an insight into what is coming in the very near future: the Great Tribulation and the times of the Gentiles (Daniel 12:1, Ezekiel 4:13, Joel 3:9). God is going to punish the nations of Israel more severely than at any time in their history, because of all their “abominations.”

“For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee: The tabernacles of Edom, and the Ishmaelites; of Moab, and the Hagarenes; Gebal, and Ammon, and Amalek; the Philistines with the inhabitants of Tyre; Assur also is joined with them: they have holpen the children of Lot. Selah” (Psalm 83:5-8). Here are the modern names of these nations, as taught at Ambassador College under Herbert W. Armstrong: Edom—Turkey; Ishmaelites—Saudi Arabia; Moab—Jordan; Hagarenes—anciently dwelt in the land known as Syria today; Gebal—Lebanon;
Ammon—also Jordan. (We cannot be extremely precise in this understanding, but it gives a good general idea.)

Here is what was written in the *Plain Truth* magazine under the title, “The Truth About the Race Question”: “Notice some of the sons of Esau: Teman, Omar, Amalek [Genesis 36:10-12]. These are not Jewish names! Yet some claim that the Jews are the children of Esau. Nothing could be further from the truth—as we shall presently see.

“Esau, or Edom, as he is also called, lived southeast of Palestine near Petra. Arab Bedouins live there now. Then where have Esau’s children gone?

“From the days of Nebuchadnezzar, who carried them captive, they disappear for 1,000 years from history. Then suddenly we find Amalek the name of a city in *Turkestan in Central Asia* (from Paul Herrmann’s *Sieben vorbei und Acht Verweht*). The Egyptians used to call the Amalekites *Amu*. In Turkestan is the River *Amu* today! In Bible times the Edomites inhabited Mt. Seir (Genesis 32:3). In Turkestan is the Syr Darya—the River of Syr, or Seir.

“The leading Turkish tribe is the *Ottoman*. The prophecies referring to Edom or Esau mention *Teman* as the leading tribe in these latter days (Obadiah 9). The conclusion is inescapable. The Ottoman Turks are the sons of Teman. Merely the vowels in spelling have been changed over these past millenniums. From Central Asia the Turks, or Edomites, moved into Asia Minor. That is where Esau’s children live today! Turkey controls the ‘crossway’ of the nations—the Dardanelles (Obadiah 14).

“How clear, ESAU, OR EDOM, IS TURKEY today! …

“The Philistines, who came from Mizraim, inhabited Southern Palestine even in the days of Abraham (Genesis 21:34). They are still there today—in the Gaza Strip in Palestine [Palestinians]—causing no end of trouble (Zechariah 9:6-7). … Both the Philistines and the
Caphtorim destroyed the Canaanites in South Palestine and lived in their place (Deuteronomy 2:23). No wonder there are so few Canaanites left!” (July 1957).

Iraq, Iran, Egypt, Libya and Ethiopia are missing in the prophecy of Psalm 83. Is this because these countries by this point have already been defeated or controlled by the king of the north?

Psalm 83 tells us the nations that will not be allied with Iran when Germany and Europe conquer that nation and radical Islam.

There has never been such an alliance to attack or totally destroy Israel in history. Concerning this psalm, the Anchor Bible reads, “History transmits no record of the national crisis when the nations enumerated in this psalm formed a league to wipe out Israel ….” Lange’s Commentary points out, “The 10 nations who are here enumerated as being combined against Israel, are never mentioned elsewhere as enemies allied at the same time and for the purpose of annihilating Israel.” Other commentaries make the same point. This must be an end-time prophecy!

Most of the Muslims were allied with Germany in World War II. They knew what Hitler was doing to the Jews, and we know the way many Muslims feel toward the Jews. Since America and Britain support the Jews today, it is not difficult to envision the Muslims and Germans allied against them.

MODERN-DAY ALLIANCES

The “moderate” Arabs today are going to join forces with Germany. This is already beginning to happen. Kuwait is one such example. In 2010, the Kuwaiti Emir Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah toured Europe in an effort to develop closer relations with Berlin and the Roman Catholic Church.
During a meeting with German Chancellor Angela Merkel and German businessmen on April 28, he is reported to have discussed “a host of bilateral relations that would cement partnership between Kuwait and Berlin” (Kuwait Times, April 28, 2010). A Catholic official said his trip to the Vatican would enable the emir and the pope to “express their appreciation and friendship” and to strengthen the “good relations that exist between the Holy See and Kuwait.”

This is a powerful example of how Psalm 83 is being fulfilled even now! Such meetings are preparing the two sides to form the Psalm 83 alliance.

Another example is the United Arab Emirates. For some time, France had limited Germany’s effort in producing warships by stifling plans for a joint Franco-German effort to create a common European shipbuilding enterprise. The typical (and no doubt strategically motivated) French defiance over this deal led to a crisis. This spurred one of the German companies involved, ThyssenKrupp, to “renounce civilian ship production to concentrate its dockyards solely on arms production. It is entering a ‘strategic partnership’ with the Abu Dhabi Mar Co. from the United Arab Emirates. Their deal seals the military alliance between Germany and the Emirates, possibly creating the opportunity for circumventing German arms exports regulations and ending efforts aimed at forging a German-French ship production …” (German-Foreign-Policy.com, Oct. 26, 2009).

Germany has also supplied Bahrain with naval patrol boats dating back to the time the Middle East was destabilized by the deposing of the shah of Iran. In more recent years, German arms exports to Bahrain have been stepped up, especially arms of a type traditionally used to put down insurrection.

These tiny oil-rich nations discussed above are geographically attached to the southeast part of the huge land
area of Saudi Arabia. We believe they are also Ishmaelites and from a biblical perspective would be considered a part of Saudi Arabia—regardless of their modern boundaries. The main issue is that Germany is building an alliance now with the moderate Arabs that is paving the way for the Psalm 83 prophecy to be fulfilled.

Saudi Arabia is also drawing closer to Germany to enhance its own security against Iran as America becomes weaker and continues to withdraw from the Middle East.

**PSALM 83 AND DANIEL**

The Psalm 83 prophecy also ties in with other end-time Bible prophecies. After all, God instructs us to put various Bible verses together in order to understand prophecy (Isaiah 28:13).

Is this psalm closely related to what Daniel saw in a vision?

“[A]nd the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind …. He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon” (Daniel 11:40-41). The area of Jordan (here described as Edom and Moab) will escape.

“He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape” (verse 42). Egypt will be conquered or controlled by the king of the north—probably because of Egypt's alliance with the king of the south. The radical Islamic movement, led by Iran, is very strong in Egypt, Algeria, Libya and Ethiopia. This religion will probably take control of these countries very soon. Iran appears to be on the verge of becoming a world superpower.

Daniel's prophecy could certainly account for Iran, Iraq, Egypt, Libya and Ethiopia not being in the Psalm 83 alliance.
The Crusades were a series of Roman Catholic “holy” wars to wrest control of the Holy Land from Muslims. They produced some of the bloodiest battles in history.

Did you ever wonder how the Catholics reconcile that “holy” slaughter with the Bible, which states, “Thou shalt not kill”? Or how they can read Jesus’ Sermon on the Mount and still lead the religious world in spilling rivers of blood?

They are called the Christian Crusades. That label itself is a deception. They were primarily Catholic crusades. Other Christian religions have their problems, but let’s not blame them for what the Catholics did—and will do. Some background will help us understand.

Pope Urban II

In A.D. 622, Catholics fought and were defeated in a crusade against the Persians and the Jews. Some 60,000 Catholics were killed, and 35,000 enslaved. The fall of Jerusalem left the Catholic world shocked and mourning.

This war left Catholics bitter against the Jews for the role they played in the war. Much anti-Semitism began because of it.
Some historians consider this the First Crusade. But the Crusades we best remember came later, beginning in the 11th century.

Pope Urban II unleashed a savage Catholic army and started these later Crusades. This “righteous” army marched 3,000 miles to conquer the Holy Land.

Here is an excerpt from the book _Crusades_, by Terry Jones and Alan Ereira, which became a BBC television series: “By summoning an army under the banner of the cross, the pope was extending the church’s mantle over all Christendom. This was the idea at the very heart of the revolutionary papacy; in place of separate local churches at the center of discreet communities, there was to be one overarching church, ruled by one overarching pope. The Crusade was to be its expression and its instrument” (emphasis mine throughout).

They state that this thinking was at the heart of the papacy. The popes wanted to rule any church called Christian. Through the Holy Roman Empire, they also tried repeatedly to rule the entire world. They have succeeded six times and are about to succeed again, for the last time, according to Bible prophecy. (Request our free book _The Holy Roman Empire in Prophecy_.)

The Protestant churches are prophesied to be brought back into the Catholic Church (Isaiah 47). Mostly this will be done through bloodshed. Remember, this wish to rule all Christianity is at “the very heart of the revolutionary papacy.” That means this philosophy has motivated the Catholic Church for nearly 2,000 years. And it still believes violent and bloody crusades are righteous. Has it ever truly repented of this condemning history? The answer is no. The best it has managed is some recent vague apologies.

History proves the Catholic Church to be one of the most militant institutions ever created. It does not believe
in a democratic philosophy. It has routinely and often “converted” people by the sword. And yet, this world seems unwilling to hold it accountable for its war crimes.

Modern historians have shown how closely the Vatican worked with the Nazis. It was through the Catholic Church that most of the leading Nazis escaped after World War II. That history is well documented. No one should doubt it. (Read The Unholy Trinity by Mark Aarons and John Loftus, available at bookstores.)

And doesn’t that crime reveal that the Catholics were deeply involved with the Nazi war machine? Just a little evidence of logic should teach us that!

This subject is too important to let our emotions stand in the way, because the worst is yet to come!

The last crusade will be the supreme inquisition of all history. It is time we understood the bloody history of the Crusades and let it be a warning!

The world seems almost unaware of these monstrous crimes.

The Jones and Ereira book continues, “Urban’s army would also rescue Jerusalem, the spiritual (and therefore the physical) center of the universe. He hoped that the redeemed Jerusalem would be directly ruled by the church.

“Every man who enrolled for the struggle must mark himself out by wearing a cross and, most important, vow to continue on his way until he reached Jerusalem.

“Urban’s method of raising this army was completely original; as well as pay, he could offer paradise [much like the Islamic terrorists]—anyone who took part had all their sins forgiven. ‘Whoever for devotion alone, not to gain honor or money, goes to Jerusalem to liberate the church of God can substitute this journey for all penance.’”

Any Bible student ought to know that only God can offer paradise and forgive sins. But that is the big problem with
most Christians: They don’t believe and obey the Bible!

The whole world, including the religious world, is deceived (Jeremiah 9:5-6, 17:9). Enormous problems like the Crusades will continue until we confront our own deception.

Jones and Ereira conclude, “By saying that carrying out a military/political enterprise would make you a better person, wiping out past sins, Urban had invented a way by which every person could internalize papal policy. Fighting in the pope’s cause was not only an obligation, it made you righteous. With that one idea, mass political action was launched. With that one idea, ideology was born. With that one idea, the Crusade was set in motion. **Urban did not understand what he had done.**”

Perhaps this pope did not know what he had done. But what he began led to a number of indescribably brutal wars between Catholics and Muslims.

The real tragedy is that the world, like Pope Urban, still does not understand what he did nor what the Catholic Church continues to do. Its real beliefs surface when it gains power. Today, it is building the greatest power it has ever had. If you understand its history, its future is very predictable—far more than most historians believe. Add Bible prophecy to that equation and you will see that this world faces a frightening specter.

**FIGHTING ON BOTH SIDES**

The Crusades created rivers of blood. And it was all done in the name of God. Of course, the Muslims responded with massive slaughters against the Crusaders, also in the name of God. Does it make any sense for God to be fighting on both sides? Or are these warring factions just giving our God of love a bloody reputation?
Jerusalem is considered a holy place by both religions. It is indeed considered the “center of the universe” to the Catholics. They believe conquering Jerusalem makes them righteous. That has been their ideology from the beginning. It is still true today. The fruits are there to prove it. The Bible says that by their fruits we will know them (Jeremiah 17:10). They believe in war as an instrument to achieve their religious goals.

“The following morning the Crusaders reentered the al-Aqsa Mosque and slaughtered every Muslim sheltering there. No one knows how many died; the Muslim chronicler reports 70,000. One of the Crusaders reports picking his way through a mess of blood and bodies more than knee-deep” (ibid). This is only one episode of many. Many people have seen pictures of this very mosque.

How many Muslims still remember the history of this mosque being knee-deep in Muslim blood? And all of this savagery supposedly made Catholics righteous! A warrior who burned Muslim babies in the Crusade was considered worthy of glory for all eternity! Does this really make sense to a sound mind?

“[K]illing, the pope now declared, need not be a sin after all. It depended on who you killed. In fact, if you killed the enemies of Christ, killing did not require penance—it was the penance. Holy slaughter could be as effective a devotional activity as prayer or fasting or pilgrimage.”

The pope said, “Now we are proposing that you should fight wars which contain the glorious reward of martyrdom, in which you can gain the title of present and eternal glory.”

“The pope had also pointed out the importance of rescuing Jerusalem from the infidel. He seems to have suggested that ‘rescue’ meant ‘seize and keep’” (ibid).

The pope also said, “Take the road to the Holy
Sepulcher, rescue that land from a dreadful race and rule over it yourselves.’’

Muslim and Jewish inhabitants of Jerusalem were slaughtered like pigs. And all of this was done by Catholics who presumably became more righteous in the process.

The memory of such horrendous massacres still lives in the minds of many Muslims.

Those memories have provoked Arabs and Jews to massacre Catholics throughout history in a similar manner—all in the name of religion.

**KING PETER’S CRUSADE**

King Peter launched his crusade from the little Mediterranean island of Cyprus, which was captured by Catholic Crusaders during the Third Crusade. Here is what Steven Runciman wrote about King Peter’s crusade in *A History of the Crusades*: “King Peter arrived at Rhodes early in the month, and on the 25th the whole Cypriot fleet sailed into the harbor, 108 vessels in all, galleys, transports, merchant ships and light skiffs. With the great galleys of the Venetians and those provided by the Hospital, the armada numbered 165 ships. They carried a full complement of men, with ample horses, provisions and arms. Not since the Third Crusade had a proportionate expedition set out for the Holy War....

“During the Friday night there was a fierce Muslim counterattack through one of the southern gates, which the Christians in their excitement had burned down. It was beaten off; and by the Saturday afternoon, all Alexandria was in the Crusaders’ hands.

“The victory was celebrated with unparalleled savagery. Two and a half centuries of holy warfare had taught the Crusaders nothing of humanity. The massacres were only
equalled by those of Jerusalem in 1099 and Constantinople in 1204. The Muslims had not been so ferocious at Antioch or at Acre. Alexandria’s wealth had been phenomenal; and the victors were maddened at the sight of so much booty. They spared no one. The native Christians and the Jews suffered as much as the Muslims; and even the European merchants settled in the city saw their factories and storehouses ruthlessly looted. Mosques and tombs were raided and their ornaments stolen or destroyed; churches too were sacked, though a gallant crippled Coptic lady managed to save some of the treasures of her sect at the sacrifice of her private fortune. Houses were entered, and householders who did not immediately hand over all their possessions were slaughtered with their families. Some 5,000 prisoners, Christians and Jews as well as Muslims, were taken to be sold as slaves. A long line of horses, asses and camels carried the loot to the ships in the harbor and there having performed their task were killed. The whole city stank with the odor of human and animal corpses.”

This author said, “the Crusades were the pope’s work.” The Crusade philosophy has made Catholic popes the bloodiest religious leaders ever!

Still, most people try to hide from this frightening reality. That is the main reason why the worst Catholic crusade is yet to come. Mankind refuses to believe the truth and believe God.

The world so quickly forgets. And because it does, the massive bloodshed continues. The Catholics did these appalling, despicable deeds before the world. But has anyone heard them repent before the world?

There is good news: the Messiah will personally stop the next crusade! Sadly, however, that will only occur after the worst suffering ever on this Earth (Jeremiah 30:7, Daniel 12:1).
More than one crusade has been launched from Cyprus. Will we see the last crusade launched from there as well? Is history about to repeat itself?

Turkey, just north of Cyprus, has been a strong member of NATO for many years. Yet, a German-led European Union has rejected it from joining the EU—even though it has been applying since 1963, when there were only six members!

Cyprus, on the other hand, joined the EU in 2004.

Why, then, has the EU consistently rejected Turkey? Is it because Turkey is predominantly Islamic?

The EU is prophesied to be ultimately comprised of 10 nations, or groups of nations, dominated by Catholicism. Already the EU is being called the Holy Roman Empire. It has traditionally been the enemy of the Muslims.

And why did the EU want tiny Cyprus to be a member? Is the EU already thinking about Cyprus as a launching pad from which to protect its Jerusalem interests?

You can be certain that the EU is thinking about how to protect the holy places in and around Jerusalem. Europe has thought like this for almost 2,000 years!

Though Cyprus is moving toward unification now, at the time Cyprus was accepted into the EU some people feared a war between Greece and Turkey, which share influence over the island. Greece became the 10th member state of the EU in 1981, and Russia sold missiles to Greece, whose intention was to bully Turkey with them.

Here is what Christopher Lockwood, diplomatic editor in Nicosia, wrote in the Daily Telegraph, March 30, 1998: “The EU has maneuvered itself into a position where it may soon have to take a bitteredly divided island, with a propensity for violence and even war, into its bosom.
“It has poisoned relations with Turkey, a crucial NATO ally; made a solution to the Cyprus problem harder to achieve than ever ....”

Why did Europe risk such serious problems, even warfare, over this tiny island?

Even the people building the EU don’t fully understand what is happening. There is a spirit and force behind these events that the world does not see.

“And in the latter time of their kingdom, when the transgressors are come to the full, a king of fierce countenance, and understanding dark sentences, shall stand up. And his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power: and he shall destroy wonderfully, and shall prosper, and practice, and shall destroy the mighty and the holy people” (Daniel 8:23-24). This will be a powerful man. But the real power behind him will not be his own—it will be that of Satan the devil! In fact, Isaiah 10:5-7 and Hosea 1:11 shows that this future EU ruler will not initially desire to cause such destruction—but he will become possessed with a mind change.

If the people of the world truly understood what is happening in Europe, they would be trembling in fear.

Does this great evil spirit being, Satan the devil, have plans for Cyprus? Is there a final crusade planned to be launched into the Middle East from there? This evil spirit being knows Bible prophecy and what the future holds.

The king of the north will hold power for 3½ years, and then the Messiah will destroy that evil empire forever! We are entering the worst times ever, but they will lead into the best news we could ever receive!

**FINAL CRUSADE PROPHESIED**

One of the main tourist attractions in Jordan is the Crusader castles. The Catholics built most of them to war
against the Muslims and control Jerusalem. These castles are stark reminders of the bloody past—and a far more bloody future!

The Jews have Jerusalem now. But not for long. Both Muslims and Catholics have designs for Jerusalem. These two great powers are about to clash again—go head to head in the final crusade over Jerusalem!

In 1997, Iran conducted major war games code-named “Road to Jerusalem.” Between 150,000 and 500,000 soldiers participated.

What could be more provocative? Iran is advertising its strategy to the world.

In 2010, then President Ahmadinejad emphasized the global significance of Quds Day, or Jerusalem Day—Iran’s annual display of support for the Palestinian cause and the “liberation of Jerusalem.” The Meir Amit Intelligence and Terrorism Information Center reported that “according to Ahmadinejad, the issue of Jerusalem is not limited to one geographic area; it is not just a Palestinian issue and it is, in fact, ‘even greater than the issue of Islam.’”

Few people understand this Muslim passion for Jerusalem and its holy sites! It is the kind of passion that causes war!

Iran will undoubtedly lead the king of the south. This power will be comprised of the radical Islamic movement. Iran is working fiercely to lead this radically militant religion.

Iran has virtually destroyed the peace process single-handedly. But still, the world continues to talk about peace. Iran and radical Islam don’t want peace, and words won’t deter them.

Joseph de Courcy wrote in the Islamic Affairs Analyst: “Subscribers should be in absolutely no doubt about this. From Iran’s support for subversion in Bahrain, through
its improving ties with Egypt, its support for Hezbollah in Lebanon and the Islamist revolutionaries in Khartoum, to its close strategic alliance with Moscow, everything has the same ultimate purpose: the liberation of Jerusalem from under the Zionist yoke.”

The U.S. has tried to isolate Iran. Almost no other nation supports America. This attempt has failed. The U.S. is fighting against Bible prophecy.

Here is what the late Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat said in 1996: “We know but one word: struggle, struggle, jihad, jihad, jihad. When we stop our intifada, when we stop our revolution, we go to the greater jihad, the jihad of the independent Palestinian state with its capital Jerusalem.”

Jihad is the Arab cry for holy war. They will get their war. But it will not be holy. It will lead to the worst suffering this planet has ever experienced!

“And at the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him: and the king of the north shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over” (Daniel 11:40). This king of the south is undoubtedly the Iran-led radical Muslims. They are strong and are pushing others around in the Middle East.

Soon they will push at the king of the north, the so-called Holy Roman Empire—the same religious power that was behind the Crusades. And that push will surely revolve around Jerusalem.

Just 25 years ago, nobody could have even imagined two world powers coming out of the Middle East and Europe. But God knew exactly what would happen. Nobody but God could have inspired these prophecies. Everybody can see these two great powers today.
Just look at what is happening in Europe—and has been for years. Pope John Paul II worked feverishly to revive the Holy Roman Empire. Early in his pontificate, in Spain, November 9, 1981, he said: “It can be said that the European identity is not understandable without Christianity and that it is precisely in Christianity that are found those common roots by which the Continent has seen its civilization mature: its culture, its dynamism, its activity, its capacity for constructive expansion in other continents as well; in a word, all that makes up its glory....

“Find yourself again. Be yourself. Discover your origins, revive your roots. Return to those authentic values which made your history a glorious one and your presence so beneficent in the other continents.”

Pope Benedict XVI repeated that same message: Discover your origins, revive your roots. When he visited his native Bavaria in September 2006, for example, according to the Christian Science Monitor his message was, “Europe needs to rethink the thesis that secularism and economic progress go hand in hand” (Sept. 15, 2006). He urged Europeans to reject secularism and embrace religion.

Earlier the same year, in March, the EU’s largest and most influential conservative group, the European People’s Party, sponsored a conference in Rome at which Pope Benedict took center stage. “Your support for Christian heritage,” he told the politicians, “can contribute significantly to the defeat of a culture that is now fairly widespread in Europe, which relegates [religion] to the private and subjective sphere.”

Many historians have tried to estimate the number of innocent people killed in the name of “Christianity” by the Catholic Church and the Holy Roman Empire. Conservative estimates put the figure at 50 million! That’s right—50 million! The “origins” and “roots” and that
“history” to which John Paul referred caused many millions of people to die!

In Daniel 7, God describes the church power backing the king of the north. “And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out [persecute] the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws [e.g. the Gregorian calendar and pagan holidays]: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time [3½ years in power]” (Daniel 7:25). God sees this whore drunken on the persecuted blood of the saints! Is killing God’s saints “glorious”?

The Holy Roman Empire will come at the king of the south like a whirlwind. Will there be a surprise attack from Cyprus? Will we see the final crusade launched from there? A whirlwind comes suddenly. So it doesn’t appear the attack will be launched from Europe.

We must understand the Holy Roman Empire and the Crusades to understand the Catholic passion for Jerusalem. They have a long history of spilling rivers of blood over Jerusalem.

Notice what their first action is after they are victorious. “He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon” (Daniel 11:41). They “enter” into the glorious land, or the Holy Land. The Hebrew indicates this is a peaceful entry—not forced.

The Jews appear to invite them in as peacekeepers. But it leads to a great double cross, prophesied in Ezekiel 23. (Request our free publications Ezekiel: The End-Time Prophet and Hosea—Reaping the Whirlwind.)

The Jews should remember the history of the violence and bloodshed by the Crusaders. Then perhaps they would not invite the enemy into Jerusalem.
“He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape. But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps” (Daniel 11:42-43). Other countries are going to fall to this great power too.

It states that Egypt will not escape. For over two decades, Egypt was the most moderate nation in the Middle East. Iran pushed Egypt toward its camp even when President Mubarak was still in power. It was able to do this because the Egyptian government feared terrorism and Egypt’s own radical Muslims. Since Mubarak was deposed, Iran has rapidly gained much more influence in Egypt. We have seen that happen before our eyes, just as God prophesied it would!

THE GOOD NEWS

At that point in prophecy, the Holy Roman Empire will face disaster. “But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many” (Daniel 11:44). The Russians and Chinese will prepare for war with Europe. The Europeans will see it happening and strike first. They will, however, be defeated.

“And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him” (verse 45). Notice, the religious leader will move his headquarters to Jerusalem—and not just for protection. He could go to many other cities that would be safer. But this will be a religious act of faith. This religious leader considers Jerusalem to be the most holy place on Earth—the “center of the universe.” Still, he will come to a most ignominious end. Nobody will be there to help him.
There should be no chapter break between Daniel 11 and 12. The story flow continues to illustrate that this religious war will trigger a nuclear World War III.

“And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book” (Daniel 12:1). There has never before been trouble like this. God promises to protect His people physically. Otherwise, they would perish in a nuclear nightmare.

As bad as this news is, IT LEADS TO THE BEST NEWS THIS WORLD HAS EVER HEARD! “And from the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away, and the abomination that maketh desolate set up, there shall be a thousand two hundred and ninety days” (verse 11). The daily sacrifice is referring to God’s Work. That Work will be taken away—removed when God takes His people to a place of safety (Isaiah 16:4, Jeremiah 48:9, Psalm 83:3). That must happen because the abomination of desolation, or the king of the north, is going to conquer America, Britain, and Israel. But when that happens, you will be able to start counting days to the coming of the Messiah. He will end these “holy wars” forever.

Any child should understand that the fruits of these “holy wars” have been diabolical! There is no excuse for our nations not knowing the truth. God has been sending His message in power for over 70 years! They have rejected it repeatedly. That is why they now must suffer so intensely. Finally, God will get their attention and lead them to peace, full joy and abundance.
FOUR

Emphasis on God’s Chosen People

Daniel 11 is the history and prophecy of the warring kings of the north and south. It was written 2,500 years ago. Much prophecy in the book has already been fulfilled throughout history. Yet we must remember that Daniel was written for the end time (Daniel 12:4, 9). So the time frame is focused on the end time. But now we have moved into the specific “last end” (Daniel 8:19) of the end-time period.

Now notice how deeply God’s chosen people are embedded and emphasized within the 11th and 12th chapters of Daniel.

“And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits” (Daniel 11:32). The word exploits means heroic acts. These people “stand firm and take action” (Revised Standard Version).

“And they that understand among the people shall instruct many: yet they shall fall by the sword, and by flame, by captivity, and by spoil, many days” (verse 33).
God’s people instruct many all around the world. The word “instruct” means to turn minds to discernment and understanding. “The word inculcates the concept of distinguishing between good and evil” (Hebrew-Greek Key Word Study Bible).

Only God truly knows how to distinguish between good and evil! Nobody else does! In the midst of billions of people, only a few thousand teach God’s true message. This tiny group instructs many, but only small numbers submit to God. However, the message is a witness to all the world (Ezekiel 33:30-33). That means God will still use our message to bring them to repentance. This is only the first stage.

Here we see a small group of people with a God-sized message. The whole world should heed today. But most people won’t become converted until the Messiah comes.

Our work is about God and His message. So is the book of Daniel. The whole world should heed now. They will turn to this message—it’s just a matter of when.

We instruct many. That means God gives us new revelation with the old to reach out with this message to the world.

“Now when they shall fall, they shall be [helped] with a little help: but many shall cleave to them with flatteries” (Daniel 11:34). Many have fallen in this spiritual war. God, through us, gives them a little help, because most of them refuse to repent—even though some fake repentance “with flatteries.”

WORLD EMPIRES

God’s perspective is exciting beyond words. In the midst of warning countries and world empires, God emphasizes his chosen people most of all! They are right at the center of this history and prophecy.
Can we see how important this work is? We all need God’s perspective on this subject.

**Daniel 11 shows the clashing of world empires. But the spotlight is still on God’s people.** Even division between them is discussed. God wants His people to know how important they are in His eyes. Nobody takes precedence over God’s people.

In the midst of geopolitical turmoil, God gives striking details about His own people! “And some of them of understanding shall fall, to try them, and to purge, and to make them white, even to the time of the end: because it is yet for a time appointed” (Daniel 11:35). Now God directs His warning specifically to those doing His work. Verse 33 says many will fall. That refers to those who knew God’s truth and then rebelled. Here it says some. So even some of those who understand and are doing God’s Work will fall.

God is talking to His end-time people directly! Daniel said this was for a “time appointed.” It’s for a specific time period—our time. And right up to the very end, some of us will fall. Hasn’t this been the story of history? The word try in verse 35 means to smelt, like smelting metal. It means a fiery trial. Even when people come into this remnant and understand, they can still fall.

Should we be shocked if some few leave God? God says it will happen right up to the end. We are in a war. And in a war, there are casualties. Will you be a casualty? It will happen “even to the time of the end.”

This is dangerous knowledge. Eternal life is at stake for God’s people. In the midst of world calamities, God reveals that this small, loyal remnant will have spiritual war casualties.

God reveals details about His own people that He does not reveal about the king of the south. That is because what we do has eternal consequences.
And all this was prophesied 2,500 years ago!

“But in his estate shall he honour the God of forces: and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, and silver, and with precious stones, and pleasant things” (verse 38). First of all, where it says “God of forces,” god should not be capitalized. This man is worshiping a god that his spiritual fathers did not know.

“In his estate” means he’s sitting in the seat of the God of gods. The “god of forces” is a demon army. Satan and his fallen angels have been cast down to this Earth and they are more wrathful than ever before. That is because they know their time is short. God is about to cast them into outer darkness.

This demon army fights spiritual Israel—most of all. Then it attacks the nations of Israel. These demons are stirring up the Gentiles against America, the Jews in the Middle East and the British peoples. It is going to intensify until they destroy our nations.

God has chosen His people to warn the nations of Israel. This is the message people must heed, and they can heed either now—or after the worst punishment ever. There is no escaping this message if we are to be in God’s kingdom. God’s message is in their midst. But most will not listen until it is too late—physically.

“And when this cometh to pass, (lo, it will come,) then shall they know that a prophet hath been among them” (Ezekiel 33:33). They finally learn that there was a prophet of God in their midst after the Tribulation has struck. Not several prophets—only one!

There is only one safe way. We must get God’s perspective—see through His eyes.

“He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown: but these shall escape out of his hand, even Edom, and Moab, and the chief
of the children of Ammon” (Daniel 11:41). The last part of this verse is interesting. God will spare Edom, Moab and the chief of the children of Ammon—or the sons of Ammon. The word chief means “with regard to time, first fruits” (Gesenius’ Lexicon). This undoubtedly is referring to God’s people, who, as Mr. Armstrong taught for so many years, are the firstfruits to be “harvested” in God’s plan of redemption for mankind. These people will be saved out of this beast’s hand.

Understand the context here! To this point in Daniel 11, we have seen how Satan has literally destroyed most of God’s people spiritually, except for the few who understand and who instruct many. Satan could not get to them spiritually. So now he tries to get to them physically, through the beast. But God will protect us from the wrath of Satan the devil. He will save this little sanctuary of strength.

“But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many” (verse 44). Tidings out of Russia and China only expedite the beast power’s plans to “destroy, and utterly to make away many”—or, as the Companion Bible says, “to devote many to extermination.”

Remember, this is all one vision. There is a chronological flow here, so don’t let the chapter break distract you. “And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book” (Daniel 12:1). It says “at that time.” When? At the time of the clash between the king of the north and the king of the south. Shortly after that clash, God’s people will be delivered. Then the
king of the north will attack America, Britain and Israel (Hosea 5:5).

The archangel Gabriel is still dictating this message. He refers to the archangel Michael, who stands up for the “sons [it should read] of thy people.” He *stands* for the sons of God—it’s a military expression. He is armed, and he takes his stand, ready to fight. That’s his job. Unless we know what Michael’s role is, we will not be protected.

The great archangel Michael stands up for spiritual Israel, which are God’s chosen people. They are taken to a place of safety in the worst time of suffering ever.

Only the loyal “sons” are protected. The dissenting rebels failed to honor their Father (Malachi 1:6). They are not protected. This is all about God’s Family. That is what the gospel is—the good news about the coming Family of God. The whole world has the potential to be part of that Family. The suffering is to help all mankind reach that goal.

We instruct *many* about their future potential (request our book The Incredible Human Potential). This is their *only hope* in a hopeless world. Most people today fight against their own breathtaking potential. Soon all that is going to change. The Messiah is about to come!

In the midst of clashing empires, God emphasizes the mind-dazzling potential of mankind. They don’t see that potential yet. But a small remnant do. They are *preparing* now to teach it to the whole world—billions of people!

Our message is vibrating with transcendental hope. God wants us to dedicate our lives to getting this message out.

**Michael the powerful archangel has already risen up to protect God’s very elect.** Our need for that protection will intensify in the troubled times ahead. Will that protection include you?
God protects those saints who “turn many to righteousness” (Daniel 12:3). This is in the context of the king of the south. Getting out this message is why we understand God’s revealed truth. Our work is to give people a chance to turn to God. Those who do not turn will be a witness to God’s message. The coming Tribulation and Day of the Lord suffering will finally awaken them. They will know how to repent because of our message. God rewards us as no other people for remaining faithful. “And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many righteousness as the stars for ever and ever” (Daniel 12:3). We are to shine like the stars and the brightness of the firmament forever!