

AMERICA (NINEVEH) AND THE PROTESTANT NATIONS (ASSYRIA)

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JOIN NO CONFEDERACY WITH THE STATE

"We {the people in God's church} are to **enter no confederacy** with the world {state gov.}, supposing that by so doing we could accomplish more."—6 *Testimonies*, pg. 17:2 (bold emphasis added).

"Every device that the prince of darkness can suggest will be employed to induce God's servants {in His church} to **form a confederacy** with the agents of Satan."—*Prophets And Kings*, pg. 659:1 (bold emphasis and braces were added).

"And many of them shall stumble, and **fall**, and be broken, and be **snared** {by the confederacy}, and be taken."—Isaiah 8:15 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"This prophecy declares that the **confederacy** will be a **snare**—a **trap**—and that many {in the church of God} will fall and be taken in it. It will be a fearful trap and will separate God's people."—13 *Symbolic Code*, No. 3 pg. 9: (bold emphasis added).

"All those who are **not** expecting the {church-state} **confederacy** {of antitypical Assyria} but instead are expecting next the re-assertion of the Roman church supremacy or the battle of Armageddon or something else, are going to fall into this **snare**, for it will appear to them harmless and perhaps even a good thing. But it will be their **trap**."—13 *Symbolic Code*, No. 3, pg. 10:3 (bold emphasis added).

Why, though, will the latter-day Assyrian Confederacy "...be a fearful trap and separate the people in God's church (13SC 3:9)? Why will some escape the "snare" (Isa 8:15) and the great majority will be caught in its "trap"? Because not everyone in God's church will know who is this antitypical power of Assyria. It is only the saints who will recognize the "trap" of the **Assyrian Confederacy**, and only they would be able to avoid its deadly "snare."

That is, if they all knew what the "trap" was, then it could not be said of them, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge" (Hos 4:6). The great majority of God's people in His church will refuse to be warned, and they will fail to secure the necessary knowledge concerning the "trap" of the Assyrian church-state Confederacy. They will also refuse to believe the truth after they have been shown definite proof from the Scriptures. And since they lack the necessary knowledge to recognize the "trap," they will be led to join the church-state confederacy and be "destroyed" (Hos 4:6).

There are Christians in other churches who study the Holy Scriptures, and they know that there is an antitypical Israel, and Egypt, and Babylon which exists even today, but only a few know about the power of the **antitypical Assyria** in our day. And since it is important for them to know who Assyria is, if they expect to escape the "snare" of his church-state confederacy, then it is necessary to study the typical events about the ancient kingdoms of Judah, Israel, Syria, and **Assyria**, to learn who is antitypical Assyria.

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THREE CONFEDERACIES WHICH GOD IS AGAINST

OLD TESTAMENT CONFEDERACY CHAPTER 1

Confederacy No. 1: The type historically revealed an ancient church-state **confederacy (No. 1)** between the ten tribe kingdom of apostate **Israel**, and the worldly kingdom of **Syria** (a heathen nation). God, however, was against it because their purpose was to **destroy Judah** (the two tribe kingdom); so He allowed ancient **Assyria** to break up their confederacy.

That is, **after** this ancient Israel-Syria confederacy was formed, but **before** Assyria had broken it, the Lord gave a virgin-birth "**sign**" to the house of David (Judah), when Ahaz was king. It said a virgin was to miraculously bear a son named "Immanuel." And when he grows up to childhood, he was to see the power of **Assyria** break up a **confederacy** between **Syria** (a state) and **Israel** (an apostate church). But it was never fulfilled during the Old Testament Jewish era, which proved the virgin-birth "sign" had to occur in the New Testament Christian era. It was fulfilled primarily in Jesus' birth by the Holy Ghost; but it was additionally fulfilled in the Immanuelite Christians who were also born of the Holy Spirit.

Confederacy No. 2: These Christians were to spiritually grow up to childhood during the Dark Ages, and see the Catholic church (antitype of Israel) having joined with the Roman state (antitype of Syria) into a church-state **confederacy (No. 2)** to **destroy Judah** (true Christians). But God was against it, and let the **Protestant Nations** to break up that confederacy, which identified them as antitypical **Assyria**.

Confederacy No. 3: Later, during the latter days the **Protestant Nations (Assyria)**, through the New World Order, began to set up their own church-state confederacy (**No. 3**) to **destroy Judah** (true Christians). And because God will be against it, He will allow that confederacy to be broken during the next war.

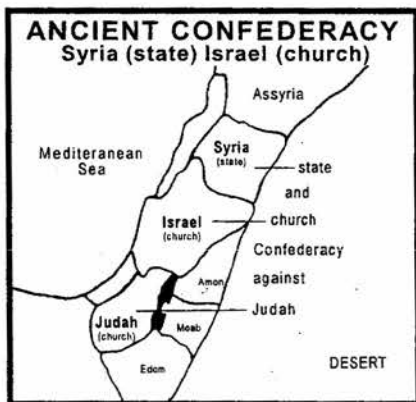
It is after all these sequential events are studied in detail and the antitypical power of **Assyria** that broke up the Dark-Age church-state confederacy is clearly identified, then the "**snare**" will be exposed, with a warning to the people in God's church, and also the people of Assyria, so that they can avoid its deadly "**trap**." It was Paul who said (1Cor 10:11) the things that "happened" to Israel are for "ensamples" (types, see margin); and that is why it has been said, "There is a **type** for every church event and transaction in connection with the gospel of Christ" (1SR 226), and that "...where there is **no type** there is **no truth**"

(2SR 10). This means, then, that it is necessary to study the type (Isa 7) in great detail to learn its antitypical significance for the benefit of God's peoplet today.

ANCIENT ISRAEL, SYRIA CONFEDERACY—A TYPE

After having read the historical events as recorded in Isaiah 7:1-17, any sincere Bible student should be able to easily understand the **type**, which concerns the two nations involved in the ancient confederacy between Ephraim (leader of **Israel—church**) and **Syria** (a heathen **state gov**) in the Old Testament Jewish era; then he should be able to visualize another antitypical church and state confederacy in the last days of the New Testament Christian era.

"And it came to pass in the days of Ahaz the son of Jotham, the son of Uzziah, king of Judah, that Rezin the king of **Syria {state}**, and Pekah the son of Remaliah, king of **Israel {church}** went up toward Jerusalem to war against it..."—Isaiah 7:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).



"This verse {Isa 7:1} in conjunction with the verses which follow it reveal that God favored Judah (the two-tribe kingdom) even though at the same time {the leading tribe of} Ephraim (the ten-tribe kingdom) {of **Israel**} were also His people. The reason He favored Judah in this instance was that their brethren (Ephraim) had joined heathen forces {with the **Syrian king**} to fight against Judah. Therefore, God could **not bless** Ephraim's endeavor."—13 *Symbolic Code*, No. 3, pg. 3:5 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Through this experience we should gain the lesson as Christians that God will not bless the endeavors of any of His people when they join heathen forces in order to gain strength in their effort to overcome their brethren in Christ for some reason they wish to have put out of their way. Such an **alliance {church-state confederacy}** cannot prosper."—13 *Symbolic Code*, No. 3, pg. 4:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

This ancient confederacy (Isa 7:1) was set up by king Pekah of apostate **Israel**, who joined with Rezin, king of **Syria** (a heathen nation), to war against their own brethren (Judah) to destroy them. Since Syria was an avowed **enemy** of God's church (Judah and **Israel**), then Israel should not have made an alliance with a heathen power, who would gladly destroy not only Judah, but all twelve tribes! God, however, predicted through Isaiah that the confederacy would fail, for he said they "could not prevail against it" (Isa 7:1).

HOUSE OF DAVID (JUDAH) WAS AFRAID

"And it was told the house of David {kingdom of Judah}, saying, **Syria is confederate** with Ephraim {**Israel**}. And his heart was moved, and the heart of the people, as the trees of the wood are moved with the wind."—Isaiah 7:2 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Had Ahaz and the chief men of his realm been true servants of the Most High, they would have had **no fear** of so unnatural an **alliance {of Israel and Syria}** as had been formed against them. But repeated transgression had shorn them of strength. Stricken with a nameless dread of the retributive judgment of an offended God, the heart of the king 'was moved, and the heart of the people, as the trees of the wood are moved with the wind.' Isaiah 7:2."—*Prophets and Kings*, pgs. 328, 329 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"The times in which Isaiah was to labor were fraught with peculiar peril to the people of God. The prophet was to witness the invasion of **Judah** by the combined {**confederated**} armies of northern **Israel** and **Syria**; he was to behold the Assyrian hosts encamped before the chief cities of the kingdom."—*Prophets and Kings*, pg. 305:2 (bold emphasis added).

"Then said the Lord unto Isaiah, Go forth now to meet Ahaz, thou, and Shearjashub thy son, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool in the highway of the fuller's field; and say unto him, Take heed, and be quiet; **fear not**, neither be fainthearted for the two tails of these smoking firebrands, for the fierce anger of Rezin with **Syria {a state gov.}**, and of the son of Remaliah {Pekah king of **Israel--an apostate church**}."—Isaiah 7:3,4 (bold emphasis, braces added).

The two "smoking firebrands" are smoldering sticks of wood, which symbolize the **confederacy of Israel and Syria**. But Judah should not fear the threatening words of the two kings (Pekah and Rezin), because the two sticks were only **smoking**, and had not erupted into an open flame (a war against Judah). Yet, the king and people of Judah were afraid, and God told them not to fear their alliance, for it will be broken within sixty-five years, as Isaiah 7:5-9 says.

CONFEDERACY BROKEN WITHIN 65 YEARS

"Because **Syria**, Ephraim {**Israel**} and the son of Remaliah {Pekah}, have taken evil counsel against thee, saying, Let us go up against Judah, and vex it, and let us make a breach therein for us, and set a king in the midst of it, even the son of Tabeal: Thus saith the Lord God, It shall not stand, neither shall it come to pass. For the head of Syria is Damascus [not heaven], and the head of Damascus is Rezin [not the Lord]; and within **threescore and five years** shall Ephraim [the ten-tribe kingdom] be broken, that it be not a people. And the head of Ephraim is Samaria [not heaven], and the head of Samaria is Remaliah's son [not the Lord]. If ye will not believe, surely ye shall not be established."—14 *Tract*, pg. 30:2 (brackets belong) (bold emphasis, braces added).

"God was here telling Judah that they should **not fear** this alliance because He was not sponsoring it. **Israel** and **Syria** were dependent on nothing greater than their kings {**Pekah** and also **Rezin**} and capitals {Samaria and Damascus} of their nations. Judah was instructed to depend on God's word which declared that these allied powers would fail to overcome them. Moreover, Judah was told, 'If ye will not believe, surely ye shall not be established.' In other words, Judah was told that if they did not believe what God was telling them they would lose out. Their

survival, therefore, was wholly conditional on their complete belief in God's promise only that the alliance formed against them would fail."—13 *Symbolic Code*, No. 3, pg. 5:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

The people of Judah were afraid, therefore God sent Isaiah to tell them not to fear the **Israel-Syrian confederacy**, and predicted that within sixty five years the confederacy would be broken (Isa 7:8), and "forsaken of both her kings" (Isa 7:16)—"...the land [**Syria and Israel**] that thou abhorrest shall be forsaken of both her kings [Rezin and Pekah]."—14 *Tract*, pg. 31:0 (brackets belong to quotation) (bold emphasis added).

KING AHAZ REFUSED TO ASK FOR A SIGN

"Moreover, the Lord spake again unto Ahaz, saying, Ask thee a **sign** of the Lord thy God; ask it either in the depth, or in the height above. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, neither will I tempt the Lord. And he said, Hear ye now, O house of David; Is it a small thing for you to weary men, but will ye weary my God also {with your unbelief of the 65-year prophecy}?"—Isaiah 7:10-13 (bold emphasis, braces added).

Though God knew king Ahaz did not believe, He spoke to him through Isaiah who said, "ask thee a **sign** of the Lord thy God" (Isa 7:11), to strengthen his unbelief, but he refused. He disbelieved God's promise to break the confederacy within sixty-five years. And as king Ahaz did not consider it a small thing to "weary men," Isaiah asked him: "Will ye weary my God also" with your unbelief in God's promise to break the church-state confederacy (Isa 7:8)? Ahaz was not like Gideon who was told: "thou shalt save Israel" (Jud 6:14). He did not rebel against God as did king Ahaz, but humbly asked for a "**sign**" to strengthen his belief (Jud 6:36-40). Nevertheless, God gave a "**sign**" to king Ahaz and the kingdom of Judah, which consisted of three parts:

THREE PARTS TO THE VIRGIN-BIRTH SIGN

- (1) The virgin-birth of a son named "Immanuel" (Isa 7:14).
- (2) His special diet was "butter and honey" (Isa 7:15).
- (3) As a child he saw a confederacy broken (Isa 7:16).

King Ahaz and the people of Judah heard Isaiah's prophecy of the virgin-birth "**sign**" (Isa 7:14) about a child named "Immanuel" (Isa 7:14) who would see a church-state confederacy broken. But the "sign" was never fulfilled in the Old Testament Jewish era; so it could only apply during the New Testament Christian era.

EXPLANATION OF VIRGIN-BIRTH SIGN—PART ONE

"Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a **sign**; behold, a **virgin** {not a married wife} shall conceive, and bear a **son**, and shall call his name **Immanuel**."—Isaiah 7:14 (bold emphasis, braces added).

After Isaiah told king Ahaz and the people about God's "**sign**," it is not inconceivable to conclude that many sons in Israel at that time were born of women who named their children "Immanuel," in the hope that their sons might be the ones to fulfill the "sign." But all their sons were born of the seed of men, and such women, married or unmarried, could not have been virgins and still bear sons. Therefore, no matter how many sons were born of women named "Immanuel"

at that time, they could not have possibly been the fulfillment of God's virgin-birth "**sign**" (Isa 7:14). Even to this very day, there are sons born of women who gave them the name of "Immanuel." But these mothers were **not virgins** when their sons were born.

Were it not for the fact that in the days of ancient Israel it was humanly impossible for a virgin to bear a son, one might come to the conclusion that the virgin-birth "**sign**" actually took place back in king Ahaz's day, as a witness to Judah that the ancient confederacy between Israel and Syria would be broken by Assyria. And since it required no less than a **miracle** for a **virgin** to bear a **son**, it proves that only God, by a **miracle**, could bring the virgin-birth "**sign**" to pass, or else He would be found a liar, because of what Isaiah said, "The Lord Himself shall give you a **sign**" (Isa 7:14). Since, however, there is absolutely no record whatsoever in the Old Testament Scriptures to prove that such a miracle ever did take place, it is very obvious that such a virgin-birth "**sign**" never was fulfilled in the day of king Ahaz, or at any time thereafter in the Old Testament Jewish era.

However, because Isaiah's prophecy of the virgin-birth "**sign**" appears to some Christians to make God a liar, or that He made a mistake, or that Isaiah was a false prophet since it was not fulfilled in the Old Testament Jewish era, some Christians may be inclined to doubt God's word. But it is only because of their mistaken idea that the "sign" was for king Ahaz's day, that makes it appear to them that God made a mistake. Though king Ahaz was given the opportunity to ask for a "sign," which he refused, the Lord said He would give him a "sign" anyway, but He did not say the "sign" was for that day only, as some Christians may think; or that it could not be fulfilled at another time far distant into the future.

If the "sign" was to be fulfilled in king Ahaz's day, then God would have kept His word, because He does not lie (Num 23:19), and would have miraculously caused a **virgin**, not a married wife, to bear a **son** who was named "**Immanuel**" as a "**sign**" to prove that sometime within 65 years the confederacy was to be broken. But since the Lord did not do that, then this proves that His virgin-birth "**sign**" was to be fulfilled at another time in the New Testament Christian era.

SOME CHRISTIANS THINK GOD MADE A MISTAKE

A certain idea has been suggested by some well-meaning Christians that if an attempt is not made to explain God's apparent so-called mistake in predicting a "sign" which did not occur in king Ahaz's day, that the doubters of God's word would be justified in concluding that God was a liar, or that Isaiah was a false prophet. Therefore, to minimize the Lord's embarrassment by explaining His so-called mistake, as well as to hopefully prove conclusively to the doubters of God's word that it was possible for a virgin to bear a son in king Ahaz's day, some Christians teach that a virgin supposedly means "a married wife." And there are others who agree with this false idea, and they teach that it was **Isaiah's own wife**, which was the "prophetess" (Isa 8:3), who was to bear a son that was to be named "Immanuel," which would then be the fulfillment of the "sign" in king Ahaz's day. Their reason

for this erroneous conclusion is based on the false idea that because Isaiah had actually fathered a literal son named "Shearjashub" (Isa 7:3), and then later another one named "Mahershalahashbaz" by his wife the "prophetess" (Isa 8:1-3), then he must have also fathered the symbolic "Immanuel" by the same "prophetess." But this cannot be true, because the "sign" was **never fulfilled** in the Old Testament Jewish era.

According to this **false premise**, Isaiah's wife, the "prophetess," or another "married wife" in king Ahaz's day who learned of Isaiah's prophecy, could be with child of the seed of man, and upon delivering her new-born son she could call his name "Immanuel," and thereby presume that this birth was to be the fulfillment of the "sign" to king Ahaz. However, their attempt to save the Lord's face, and supposedly prove that He was not a liar, or that Isaiah was not a false prophet, they have really proved nothing, nor have they helped the Lord.

Instead, they have not only complicated Isaiah's prophecy, but they also created more doubt in the minds of unbelievers and some wavering Christians for this reason: When they teach that a virgin means "a married wife" and that the "sign" was fulfilled in Jesus' birth, the doubters of God's word would believe that the virgin Mary was "a married wife" who had been touched by her husband Joseph, and who had borne him a son by his very own seed, rather than by the miraculous power (Mt 1:18-23) of the Holy Ghost.

CHILD BIRTH—A COMMON OCCURRENCE

Consider the fact that from the days of king Ahaz even to this very day, it is a common occurrence for "a married wife" to bear a son by the seed of her husband. That could not be a "sign" of any significance to prove that an unfilled prophecy would take place. As an example, let a married man predict a future event, and tell people that his wife will bear a son named Immanuel as a **sign** to prove its fulfillment, and see if any rational person would accept this every day **common-occurrence birth** as a sign of anything but **parenthood** for the man and his wife!

Now suppose that Isaiah did teach that a virgin means a married wife," and that his own wife, "the prophetess," really did bear him a son whom she named "Immanuel" as a "sign" to prove that the confederacy was to be broken within sixty five years. Could it be expected that king Ahaz or any one else in Judah were to believe that such a **common-occurrence birth** would be a "sign" from the Lord?

Perhaps there might be some credibility to such a common-occurrence birth as a "sign" from the Lord if Isaiah was one hundred years old as was Abraham, and his wife was ninety years old as was Sarah (Gen 17:17). But even if Isaiah and his wife "the prophetess" were that old, their son's birth could not have been the "sign" from the Lord, simply because his **wife would not** be a pure chaste **virgin** when their son was born! Therefore, unless Isaiah's wife was a virgin when her son "Shearjashub" (Isa 7:3) was born, then no one could say that his birth was the fulfillment of the virgin-birth "sign;" especially since he was born (Isa 7:3) before the "sign" (Isa 7:14) was given!

As for the birth of "Mahershalahashbaz," there may be some well-meaning Christians who erroneously concluded that when Isaiah "went unto the prophetess" (Isa 8:3) and gave birth unto "Mahershalahashbaz," then she, "a married wife," must have also given birth to "Immanuel" as well; and that their **common-occurrence births**, therefore, fulfilled the virgin-birth "sign," which took place in the days of king Ahaz.

But this, of course, cannot be true either, because Mahershalahashbaz was born of "a married wife" (the prophetess), while Immanuel (Jesus) was born of the virgin Mary. Thus, the obvious difference between the two sons, which cannot be ignored, is that "Mahershalahashbaz" was born a common birth by the will of the flesh, because Isaiah "went unto the prophetess" (Isa 8:3). Whereas "Immanuel" was born by the will of God, because a virgin birth is by the **miraculous power** of the Holy Ghost! This irrefutable fact proves that "Immanuel" could not have been the son that was born of Isaiah and the "prophetess," because she was "a married wife," **not a virgin!**

A MARRIED WIFE IS NOT A VIRGIN

Since Isaiah was teaching in the name of the Lord, then if he taught the false idea that a virgin means "a married wife," it would not be too difficult for anyone to conclude that he really was a false prophet, because the Word of God has never taught this false notion anywhere in the Scriptures! The following Bible verses prove that a virgin is **not** "a married wife."

"If any man take a wife, and go in unto her, and hate her, and give occasions of speech against her, and bring up an evil name upon her {by saying that she is **not a virgin**}, and say, I took this woman, and when I came to her {to see if she is a virgin}, I found her not a maid {not a virgin}: Then shall the father of the **damsel {virgin}**, and her mother, take and bring forth the tokens of the **damsel's virginity** unto the elders of the city in the gate {to prove that she was still a virgin, because her husband had not yet touched her}: And the damsel's father shall say unto the elders, I gave my daughter unto this man to wife, and he hateth her; And lo, he hath given occasions of speech against her, saying, I found not thy daughter a **maid {virgin}**; and yet these are the tokens of my daughter's virginity. And they shall spread the cloth before the elders of the city."—Deuteronomy 22:13-17 (bold emphasis, braces added).

These verses teach that a young woman who has never been touched by a man is said to be: (1) a **maid**—vs. 14, and (2) a **virgin**—vs. 15, and (3) a **damsel**—vs. 15; and in each case she remains a virgin until she loses "the tokens of her virginity" when she is touched by her husband. And if she is just married as a "wife" (Deut 22:13), but has not yet been touched by her new husband, she is still a **virgin**, or a **maid**, or a **damsel**. This is the miracle of the Lord's virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:14); which proves that He meant exactly as He said: "A **virgin** shall conceive, and bear a son" by a miracle, not by "a married wife" who has been touched by her husband! Even Webster's Dictionary supports the Bible's irrefutable definition of the word "virgin," by defining it as: "an unmarried girl or woman...an absolutely chaste young woman."

Since the Jews rejected Jesus their Messiah, who was born of a virgin in fulfillment of the virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:14), then that would be the reason why they would teach the doctrine that a **virgin** is "a **married wife**." However, by saying this, it is obvious that they are trying to make it appear that the virgin-birth "sign" was fulfilled by a son named "Immanuel" (Isa 7:14), who was born to Isaiah and his wife, the "prophetess," as was "Mahershalalhashbaz" (Isa 8:3).

Also, certain Christians think that God would be a liar if the virgin-birth "sign" was not fulfilled in the day when Ahaz was king of Judah. It is for this obvious reason that they would teach a **virgin** is a "married wife" who gave birth to a child after being touched by her husband. Since God is true and "every man a liar" (Rom 3:4), and since the "sign" (Isa 7:14) **never** did take place during the Old Testament Jewish era, then it had to be fulfilled only in the miraculous birth of the Messiah (Jesus) in the New Testament Christian era.

EXPLANATION OF VIRGIN-BIRTH SIGN—PART TWO

"**Butter and honey** shall he eat, that he may know to refuse the evil, and choose the good."—Isaiah 7:15 (bold emphasis added).

In this part of the virgin-birth "sign," God said the new-born babe was to eat butter and honey, because it would enable him to know the difference between good and evil. But literal butter and honey has never been known to possess any kind of nourishment that could impart such knowledge to any one.

"...**butter and honey** possess absolutely no virtue to endue one with wisdom and will to choose the good and to refuse the evil,..."—2 *Timely Greetings*, No. 45, pg. 4:0 (bold emphasis added).

"...moreover,...these two literal articles of food—**butter and honey**—can never in themselves {miraculously} enable anyone to know the difference between good and bad,..."—6 *Tract*, pg. 28:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

This means that besides the miraculous birth of the son "Immanuel" (Isa 7:14), his special diet would miraculously give him the knowledge to differentiate between good and evil. But if the virgin-birth "sign" was actually fulfilled through Isaiah's own wife, the "prophetess" (Isa 8:3), it could not have been a miracle, because the birth of her new-born son would have only been another literal common-occurrence birth. And this would mean that the babe must be fed literal **butter and honey**, instead of milk, according to Isaiah's prophecy (Isa 7:15). And such a diet that only adults could eat, would eventually cause the **untimely death** of the babe. Then he would never know the difference between good and evil, nor would he grow up to childhood, as Isaiah prophesied (Isa 7:16).

"The training {concerning some foods which new-born babies must not eat} should begin with the infant in its mother's arms. The child should be given food only at regular intervals, and less frequently as it grows older. It should not be given sweets {such as **honey**}, or the food of older persons {such as **butter**}, which it is unable to digest."—*Counsels On Diet And Foods*, pg. 230 (bold emphasis, braces were added).

"Babies less than a year old should never be fed **honey** because it can lead to a condition known as infant botulism, caution health authorities in California. During the first three months of 1984, eight of 20 cases reported of infant botulism were associated with eating **honey**. Symptoms include constipation, feeding problems and lethargy. After one year of age, infants can safely digest **honey**, the experts add."—*The GLOBE* September 11, 1984, pg. 14.

Thus, the miracle of the virgin birth, as well as the miraculous diet of "**butter and honey**," proves again that the "sign" was not fulfilled at any time during the Old Testament Jewish era, but could only have been fulfilled in the New Testament Christian era when Jesus Christ was born of the Holy Ghost through the virgin Mary (Mt 1:20-23). Therefore, it is obvious that if the Babe Jesus was fed literal butter and honey, instead of milk, He would have become sick or even died on such a diet. This proves, of course, that the butter and honey must represent **spiritual food**.

EXPLANATION OF VIRGIN-BIRTH SIGN—PART THREE

"For before the child shall know to refuse the evil, and choose the good, the land that thou abhorrest shall be forsaken of both her kings."—Isaiah 7:16.

"The lands, {of apostate} Israel, and Syria, which Judah abhorred {and feared}, were to be forsaken of both their kings—**conquered** by the king of **Assyria**—before Immanuel was to be able to refuse the evil and choose the good,..."—14 *Tract*, pg. 33:0 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"...for the confederacy of Israel {God's **church**} and Syria {a **state** gov.}, let us remember, was to be broken by Assyria **after** Immanuel was born but **before** he could 'refuse the evil and choose the good;...'—14 *Tract*, pg. 36:0 (bold emphasis added).

This third part of the virgin-birth "sign" stated that a "child" named Immanuel will be alive at the time a church-state confederacy is broken—when the land is "forsaken of both her kings" (Isa 7:16). This has caused some well-meaning Christians to think that the "sign" was fulfilled in the day of king Ahaz of Judah. They say that a virgin means "a married wife," because they believe the son of Isaiah's wife, the "prophetess," or any other married wife's son being born at that time, was in fulfillment of the virgin-birth "sign;" and that the babe was to grow up to childhood and be alive at the time the ancient Israel-Syrian confederacy (Isa 7:1) against Judah was broken by Assyria (2Ki 18:11). But the only virgin-birth Son that has ever been born on this earth was Jesus Christ; so, it would be impossible for the "sign" to be fulfilled in the days of king Ahaz. But it didn't make any difference to him whether the "sign" was fulfilled in his day or at any other time, because he did not believe the word of the Lord. And that is why Isaiah said to Ahaz: "Will ye weary my God also" (Isa 7:13) with your unbelief?

KING AHAZ DID NOT BELIEVE

Contrary to what many Christians think, the "sign" really had nothing to do with the breaking of the ancient confederacy between Israel and Syria (Isa 7:1,2), because king Ahaz was told that he must "believe,"

or he would not be "established" (Isa 7:9). Notice that when he was told he must believe God's word that "within threescore and five years" (Isa 7:8) the confederacy was to be broken, it was before he was told of the virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:14-16); which proves that the faith of king Ahaz was to be established strictly in God's word alone, and not in the "sign." Therefore, whether or not he was given a "sign," this was in no way to alter the Lord's prediction through His prophet Isaiah that the confederacy was to be broken within sixty five years (Isa 7:8). Even if God's prophet had not given the "sign" (Isa 7:14-16) to king Ahaz, he was nonetheless to "believe" in God's word, if he was to be "established," and saved from the power of the two kings of Israel and Syria—the lands which the kingdom of Judah abhorred.

"The prophet declared that the kingdom of Israel, and Syria as well, would soon come to an end. 'If ye will **not believe**,' he concluded, 'surely ye shall **not be established**.' {Isa 7} Verses 4-7,9."—*Prophets and Kings*, pg. 329:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

It is important to note that God's prediction that within sixty-five years (Isa 7:8) the Israel (church) Syrian (state) confederacy was to be broken, should not be confused with His virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:14), because the sixth-five year prediction did come to pass (2 Ki 18:11) in the day of Ahaz, king of Judah. The "sign," however, did not come to pass at anytime during the Old Testament Jewish era. It must, therefore, apply to the New Testament Christian era in the birth of Jesus (Isa 7:14). The Jews, however, rejected Him, and many Christians in our day do not believe in the full significance of the "sign" (Isa 7:15,16).

King Ahaz, however, did not believe in God's prediction that the Israel (church) Syrian (state) confederacy would be broken within sixty-five years; and neither did he believe in His virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:14-16). Furthermore, he was not going to wait around for sixty five years to see if the confederacy would be broken. And neither was he going to try to find a virgin who had given birth to a son, which she had named "Immanuel," and who had been feeding him literal butter and honey; and then wait several years for the babe to grow to childhood (if he had not already died from eating the butter and honey), so that the confederacy would be broken (Isa 7:16). That was too long for king Ahaz to wait; so he decided to do something himself to break up that confederacy.

KING OF ASSYRIA BROKE ANCIENT CONFEDERACY

"Well would it have been for the kingdom of Judah had {king} Ahaz received this message from heaven {that sometime within sixty five years the confederacy would be broken}. But choosing to lean on the arm of flesh {instead of believing in the prediction of God through Isaiah}, he sought **help** from the **heathen**. In desperation he sent word to Tiglathpileser, king of Assyria: 'I am thy servant and thy son: come up, and save me out of the hand of the king of Syria, and out of the hand of the king of Israel, which riseth up against me.' 2 Kings 16:7. The request was accompanied by a rich present from the king's treasure and from the temple storehouse."—*Prophets and Kings*, pg. 329:2 (bold emphasis and braces were added).

"And Ahaz took the silver and gold that was found in the house of the Lord, and in the treasures of the king's house, and sent it for a present to the king of Assyria. And the king hearkened unto him: for the king of Assyria went up against Damascus {capital city of Syria}, and took it, and carried the people of it captive to kir, and **slew Rezin {king of Syria}**."—2 Kings 16:8,9 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"And the king of Assyria {Isa 7:17} did **carry away** {the ten-tribe kingdom of} **Israel** unto Assyria,...Because they obeyed not the voice of the Lord..."—2 Kings 18:11,12 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"About two years later, Samaria {the capital city of the kingdom of **Israel**} was invested by the hosts of Assyria under Shalmaneser; and in the siege that followed, multitudes perished miserably of hunger and disease as well as by the sword. The city and nation fell, and the broken remnant of the ten tribes {of **Israel**} were carried away **captive** and scattered in the provinces of the Assyrian realm."—*Prophets and Kings*, pg. 291:2 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"The northern kingdom {the ten tribes of **Israel**} was rapidly crumbling to pieces; and many were perishing by the sword; a multitude had already been carried away captive; soon {the kingdom of} Israel would fall completely into the hands of the Assyrians, and be utterly ruined;..."—*Prophets and Kings*, pg. 332:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"First is mentioned the history of ancient Israel's unsuccessfully confederating with Syria against {the kingdom of} Judah, for they could not prevail against her. Instead, both were **taken by Assyria**."—12 *Symbolic Code*, No. 1, pg. 5:2 (bold emphasis added).

And so it was just as God had predicted, that sometime "within threescore and five years," not at the end of 65 years, "shall Ephraim be broken, that it be **not a people**" (Isa 7:8). And in spite of the fact that it was king Ahaz who had hired the king of Assyria to break the confederacy, yet, the Assyrians could not have done so except God had decreed the fall and complete destruction of the ten-tribe kingdom of Israel, so that they would "be not a people" (Isa 7:8). Hosea the prophet, who prophesied in the days of king Ahaz (Hos 1:1), also predicted the complete destruction of the ten-tribe kingdom of Israel, when he said that God would "cause to **cease** the **kingdom** of the house of **Israel**" (Hos 1:4). Thus, God must receive credit for the breaking of the confederacy, and the dispersion of Israel, not king Ahaz or the king of Assyria!

"Ancient Israel as a nation and a government {the twelve tribes} were obliged to protect their own property, people, and families—even by the sword. But they were not to war against their own brethren. When the ten-tribe kingdom, Israel, confederated with Syria to war against the two-tribe kingdom, Judah, God's **curse** rested upon both Syria and Israel, and each was consequently broken by the king of Assyria. (See Isaiah 7:1-8; 8:4)."—5 *Answerer Book*, pgs. 71, 72 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"When ancient **Israel** fell it was God who brought it; it was God who was responsible for it."—13 *Symbolic Code*, No. 1, pg. 30:1 (bold emphasis added).

"...the {Israel-Syrian} confederacy did not succeed in breaking Judah; but rather that God employed the predatory power, **Assyria**, swiftly to **break the confederacy**, to destroy both kings, and to scatter Israel and Syria throughout the cities of the Medes, even though Judah herself was not wholly devoted to God."—*Military Stand*, pg. 5 (boldings, braces added).

The people of Judah were warned: "If ye will not believe, surely ye shall not be established" (Isa 7:9); but king Ahaz proved he did not believe when he hired the Assyrians to break the confederacy. As a result, the kingdom of Judah was later taken captive by Babylon, and was no longer "established" as an independent nation. They stayed in captivity under Babylon, and Medo-Persia, and Grecia; and finally under the Roman empire, when **Jesus** was born of the **virgin Mary**, which began the New Testament Christian era. Then at that time the virgin-birth "sign" was fulfilled, after a long lapse of about 700 years since Isaiah's prophecy was first given to Judah.

VIRGIN-BIRTH TIME DISCREPANCY

Even though the virgin-birth "sign" was given in the day of king Ahaz, and even though the ancient confederacy between Israel and Syria was broken by Assyria within the 65 year period as Isaiah predicted (Isa 7:8), yet, the "sign" was not given to prove the credibility of that particular sixty-five year prediction, because the "sign" was not fulfilled at that time, but was fulfilled many years later in the day of Jesus. And its not being fulfilled in king Ahaz's day proves there was a difference of time—"a **time-discrepancy**"—to be considered in order to correctly understand all three parts of the virgin-birth "sign."

"...The lands, Israel and Syria, which Judah abhorred, were to be forsaken of both their kings—conquered by the king of Assyria—**before** Immanuel was to be able to refuse evil and choose good,...But the simple historical fact that these two kingdoms were overthrown centuries before Immanuel {Jesus} was even born, brings a **time-discrepancy** {time difference} which can be reconciled only by the conclusion that all four nations (Judah, Israel, Syria, and Assyria) involved in this historical action, were typical of four others that were to arise sometime following Immanuel's birth; for **after** His birth, Israel and Syria were to be conquered by Assyria."—14 *Tract*, pg. 33:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

The dictionary says "discrepancy" means "difference," and "discrepant" means "disagreeing." Thus, the phrase, "a time-discrepancy" in reference to the virgin-birth "sign," simply means that there is a difference or disagreement between the time that the Jews thought the "sign" was to be fulfilled in king Ahaz's day, and the time when it was actually fulfilled in the birth of Jesus Christ. The Jews, of course, expected the "sign" to be fulfilled in their day; instead, it was fulfilled approximately 700 years later. And today there are some Christians who also believe that it was partially fulfilled in king Ahaz's day.

The reason that most of the Christians cannot understand the virgin-birth "sign," is because they do **not** believe that all three parts of Isaiah's prophecy

(Isa 7:14-16) applies to the Christian era. Thus, they teach that the birth of a "Son" by a "virgin" (Isa 7:14) applies to the day of Christ, but as for the eating of "butter and honey" (Isa 7:15), and the breaking of the Israel-Syrian confederacy, wherein the people are "forsaken" of both their "kings" (Isa 7:16), they apply to the day of king Ahaz of Judah. If, however, they would accept the fact that there must be "a **time-discrepancy**" connected with all three verses (Isa 7:14-16), which places their fulfillment in the Christian era, they would not be confused. Then they would not try to put Isaiah 7:14 in Christ's day, and Isaiah 7:15,16 in the day of king Ahaz; which leads them to erroneously conclude that "a virgin" is "a married wife." But this is not the only record of a prophecy in which "a **time-discrepancy**" brought about a future fulfillment.

It was Moses who wrote the book Genesis (pp 251) about a prophecy (Gen 3:15) that God gave to Adam and Eve in the garden of Eden concerning the bruising of the "heel" of the woman's seed. Most Christians today say this means the death of Christ on the cross; but Adam and Eve must have thought the prophecy would be fulfilled in their life time. Instead, there was "a **time-discrepancy**" of about 4,000 years to its fulfillment at Christ's first advent. Therefore, as Christians accept the "time-discrepancy" connected with Genesis 3:15, and believe that it was fulfilled about 4,000 years later at Christ's death on the cross; so likewise today, these Christians must accept "a **time-discrepancy**" connected with Isaiah 7:14-16, and believe it was fulfilled about 700 years later when Jesus was born of the Holy Ghost by the virgin Mary; wherein all three parts of the virgin-birth "sign" was to be fulfilled in the New Testament Christian era.

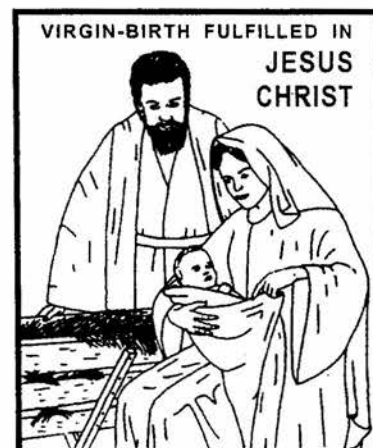
GOD'S VIRGIN-BIRTH SIGN WAS FULFILLED IN CHRISTIAN ERA

CHAPTER 2

CHRIST (IMMANUEL) WAS BORN OF HOLY GHOST

In Matthew, there is a record of the exact fulfillment of the virgin-birth "sign," which was prophesied by Isaiah, the prophet of the Lord (Isa 7:14-16).

"Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as His mother Mary was **espoused** {being already married} to Joseph, {but} **before they came together**, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call His name JESUS:



for He shall save His people from their sins. Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken of the Lord by the prophet, saying, Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us."—Matthew 1:18-23 (bold emphasis, braces added).

According to the above verses (Mt 1:18-23) it was Gabriel the angel of the Lord who came to Joseph in a dream. He had, however, already come to Mary at another time (Lk 1:26-31), and told her that she was with child by the power of the Holy Ghost, which fulfilled the **only prophecy** in the entire Bible that spoke of the virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:14). This irrefutable fact proves that this "sign" cannot be applied to the day of king Ahaz, because at no time in all the history of this world has there ever been anyone who was born of a virgin by the power of the Holy Ghost, except **Jesus Christ**, the Jewish Messiah.

Today, the great majority of the unbelieving Jews who have rejected Jesus, are still teaching the same two thousand year old theory that a virgin supposedly means "a married wife," by which to discredit the virgin-birth of Jesus Christ, their Messiah. This has led them to erroneously conclude that the virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:14-16) does not apply to the day of the birth of Jesus, but to the day of king Ahaz. Then they could say that any Jewish "married wife" who was living in that day could bear a son, name him "Immanuel" (Isa 7:14), and then tell king Ahaz that her son fulfilled the virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:14).

And there are also others among the Christians who are misguided. They claim that Jesus was the Messiah, but teach the Jewish error that "a married wife" is a virgin. They do not know that this teaching not only discredits the virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:14), but it also discredits Jesus as the Messiah! It is this "married wife" theory that leads some Christians to erroneously conclude that it was Joseph, not the Holy Ghost, that caused Mary to be with child. This **confuses** other Christians and makes them believe that Mary was not a virgin when Jesus Christ was born! It is no wonder, then, that so few Christians today really believe in the virgin-birth of Jesus by the Holy Ghost, when they are taught the blasphemous error that His mother Mary was "a married wife" who had been touched by her husband Joseph, wherein she was with a child by the seed of a man!

The Word of God, however, directly contradicts this false theory by Matthew's plain statement: "when as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, **before they came together**, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost (Mt 1:18); and also by Luke's statement: "when the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, ... Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing **I know not a man**? And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee" (Lk 1:30,31,34,35). It is obvious, then, according to these words: "**before they came together**," and "**I know not a man**," that no sincere Christian can honestly teach others that the virgin Mary was with the child Jesus (Mt 1:21) by the seed of her own husband Joseph.

So far it has been proven by the first part of the "sign," that the virgin-birth of a Son who was named "**Immanuel**" (Isa 7:14), must apply to **Jesus** in the New Testament Christian era. This irrefutable fact proves that the second part of this "sign"—eating the "butter and honey" (Isa 7:15), must also apply to the Christian era and not to the time of king Ahaz of Judah.

CHRIST (IMMANUEL) ATE BUTTER AND HONEY

"Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin {Mary} shall conceive, and bear a son {named Jesus}, and shall call His {symbolic} name Immanuel. **Butter and honey** shall he eat, that he may know to **refuse the evil**, and **choose the good**."—Isaiah 7:14,15 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"It is agreed {by most Protestant Christians} that the child here spoken of prophetically, is Christ. And according to these verses, He was prescribed a special diet, as was John the Baptist (Luke 1:15; Matt. 3:4). Yet, there is no record showing that **Christ's diet** was ever of **literal 'butter and honey'**. There is record, though, that He did eat of all the sanctified foods that were commonly used by the Jews in His time."—6 Tract, pg. 27:3 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"But as the prophet's utterance {Isa 7:14,15} must be correct, the only conclusion possible is that the '**butter and honey**' are **symbolical** of something which Christ freely used, and which made Him wise and able to discriminate between **good and evil**."—6 Tract, pg. 28:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"The only way to discover what the butter and honey represent, is to determine what enabled Jesus to differentiate between good and evil, and to choose the one and refuse the other—the reason for His eating them. The Saviour defeated the powers of evil by being inspired to interpret the Scriptures, which enabled Him to say: '**It is written**.' This reveals that the '**butter and honey**,' which empowered Him to '**refuse the evil**' and to '**choose the good**,' are **symbolical of the Scriptures**. Thus when He said, 'I have meat to eat that ye know not of' (John 4:32), He must have referred to Isaiah's 'butter and honey.'"—6 Tract, pgs. 28, 29 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"No one {Christian} would deny, as mentioned in our last week's study, that this is a prophecy {Isa 7:14,15} of Christ's first advent. And as we have the record that His diet was not of dairy butter and of bee honey, not restricted as was John the Baptist's, also by the fact that **no literal butter and honey** has the efficacy of compelling anyone to choose the good and to refuse the evil, it all proves that the "butter and honey" are symbolical of the **Word of God**, that Christ Himself learned from the **Scriptures to choose the good and to refuse the evil**."—2 Timely Greetings, No. 20, pg. 25:2 (bold emphasis, braces added).

It is conclusive, then, that Jesus fulfilled Isaiah's prophetic "sign" of a Son who was born of a virgin, and whose diet consisted of the symbolic "butter and honey." Since, however, many of the Jews in Judah accepted Him as their Messiah, and took unto themselves the title of "Christians" (Acts 11:26), then it is obvious that both **Jesus Christ** and the **Christian Jews** were those who fulfilled the virgin-birth "sign"!

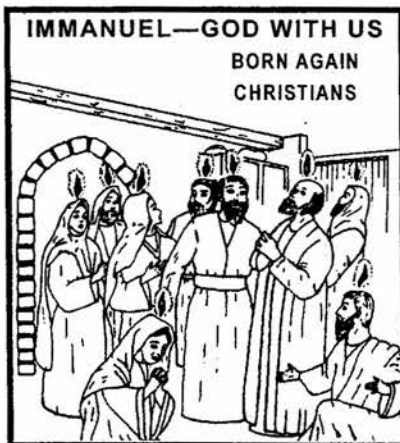
CHRISTIANS (IMMANUEL) BORN OF HOLY GHOST

Isaiah's prophecy of the virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:14) plainly stated that the Son was to be called "Immanuel," whereas Gabriel said, "thou shalt call his name JESUS" (Mt 1:21); and then he explained the meaning of the name "Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God with us" (Mt 1:23; DA 19:1). According to these Scriptures (Isa 7:14; Mt 1:23), it is obvious that the name of "Immanuel," as well as "Emmanuel," both refer to Jesus the Messiah. Since, however, Jesus was the Son God (Ps 2:7; Isa 9:6) who was only one person, then some Christians may think that "Emmanuel" should mean, God is with Me, and must apply to Him only. Instead, it means "God with us," which clearly reveals the fact that it must also apply to the Christian Jews whom God is with, because He calls them the "sons of the living God" (Hos 1:10; Rom 9:26). Whereas, God was not with the unconverted Jews (Hos 1:9) who rejected and crucified their Saviour and Messiah; therefore, the names of "Immanuel" and "Emmanuel" could not apply to them.

And as these unfaithful Jews did not believe that the "sign" was fulfilled in Jesus, who was born of the Holy Ghost, so there are unfaithful Christians today who do not believe that the "sign" is also fulfilled in the Immanuelite Christians, who were also born of the Holy Ghost. Yet, in spite of the Jews' rejection and the Christian's unbelief, the name "Emmanuel" indicates that only the Jews and Gentiles who accepted Jesus as their Messiah, and became true Christians, could rightly say, "God with us" (Mt 1:23; Isa 8:10).

It is these irrefutable facts that prove conclusively that though the virgin-birth "sign" primarily applies to Jesus, it must also apply to the Christians in a secondary sense. And that is because both Jesus as well as the Christians were born of the same Holy Ghost (Mt 1:20; Jn 3:3; Acts 2:1-4). This means that the names "Immanuel" (Isa 7:14) and "Emmanuel" (Mt 1:23) applies to Jesus and the Christians; because these names represent "Christ {Immanuel} in the person of His people {Emmanuel}" (14Tr 35:0). And that is why this Bible study refers to the Christians as Immanuelites.

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they {about 120 Christian Jews Acts 1:15} were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."—Acts 2:1-4 (bold emphasis, braces added).



"The birth of {Jesus} a man-child (Immanuel) to a virgin, for 'a sign' to 'the house of David' (Isa 7:13,14)." —14 Tract, pg. 32:4 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"We learned that Immanuel (meaning 'God with us') {Mt 1:23} could represent only His true followers, the born-again Christians."—12 Symbolic Code, No. 1, pg. 6:0 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Wherefore, the virgin-birth prophecy {Isa 7:14} does not refer alone to the birth of Christ, but even more significantly to His {Christian} followers {the saints who were born of the Holy Ghost}—the birth and development of Christendom."—14 Tract, pg. 34:2 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Having {Him--Jesus the Son of God} been pre-existent with His Father (Heb 1:1,2; John 1:1,2), and then having been reborn in Bethlehem, Immanuel manifestly represents the 'born again' Christians {of the Holy Ghost} (John 3:3);..."—14 Tract, pg. 35:2 (bold emphasis, braces added).

As Jesus existed twice, once in heaven and then again upon the earth when He was born of the virgin Mary, by the miraculous power of the Holy Ghost at the time of His second existence; so the Christians, Immanuel or Emmanuel exist twice. The first time they were born with an earthly carnal nature; and the second time they were born again of the Holy Ghost as a "new creature" (2Cor 5:17), in fulfillment of the virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:14). Furthermore, this "sign" also stated that the Immanuelite Christians were to be given a special diet of "butter and honey" (Isa 7:15).

CHRISTIANS (IMMANUEL) EAT BUTTER AND HONEY

According to Isaiah's virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:15), both Jesus and the Christians (Immanuel), were to eat "butter and honey" to enable them "to refuse the evil, and choose the good."

"...the fact that no literal butter and honey has the efficacy of compelling anyone to choose the good and to refuse the evil, it all proves that the 'butter and honey' are **symbolical** of the Word of God,..."—2 Timely Greetings, No. 20, pg. 25:2 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"The obvious lesson is that at the time one is converted (born again) to Christ, he is a babe in the Christian life, and needs for the time being to be fed, as a new born babe, on the 'sincere milk of the Word,' that he 'may grow thereby.' 1Pet 2:2."—14 Tract, pg. 36:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

Thus, "Immanuel" (Isa 7:14) or Emmanuel" (Mt 1:23) represents the Christians, "God with us," who must eat the "butter and honey" to help them refuse evil and choose good. They were to learn to do this as a "child" (Isa 7:16) growing up, who are not mature enough to consistently refuse all evil and choose all good, because they are sinners struggling to overcome sin. Thus, it is important to note that if the virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:14) of a "child" (Isa 7:16) meant Jesus only, and not to the Christians as well, then there could not be a time "before the child shall know to refuse the evil, and choose the good" (Isa 7:16). If the child (symbolized as Christians) did not know the difference between good and evil, then they would be sinners until they learned the difference and stopped sinning. But that was not the case with Jesus, for not once did He ever sin in all His life time, even as a child!

"The life of **Jesus** {Christ the Messiah} was a life in harmony with God {Luke 2:49}. While He was a child, He thought and spoke as a **child**; but **no trace of sin** marred the image of God within Him."—*Desire of Ages*, pg. 71:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

Jesus never sinned! He was the spotless "Lamb of God" (Jn 1:29), "who knew no sin" (2Cor 5:21), because He ate "butter and honey" to know "every Word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Mt 4:4). However, the Jews and Gentiles who were born into sin, but later born of the Holy Ghost as Immanuelite Christian babes in the faith, must begin their spiritual growth on the food of babes—"milk" (1Pet 2:2), the more simple fundamental doctrines of the Word of God. And even after the Christians had grown up beyond the childhood stage, and could eat solid spiritual foods (**butter and honey**), they still would not be able to **consistently** refuse all evil and choose all good, until they had become fully mature Christians.

Now since the first part of the virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:14) must apply to Jesus and the Christians, because they were both born of the Holy Ghost; so the second part of the "sign" (Isa 7:15) must also be applied to them, because they were both to eat the symbolic "butter and honey." However, the third part of the "sign" (Isa 7:16) must apply to **Christians only**, because Jesus went to heaven in A.D. 31; and because it was several hundred years later, after Christianity had developed from babyhood to childhood, which was "**before**" (Isa 7:16) they could refuse all evil and choose all good, that the Immanuelite Christians would be living in the time when a **confederacy** is **broken**.

CHRISTIANS LIVING DURING A CONFEDERACY

The third part of the prophetic "sign" (Isa 7:16) teaches that by the time the babe had symbolically become a "child," a confederacy was to be broken. But it could not have referred to Jesus Christ, because when He was a child, during the time that Judah was in captivity under government of Pagan Rome, there was **no confederacy** that had been **broken**.

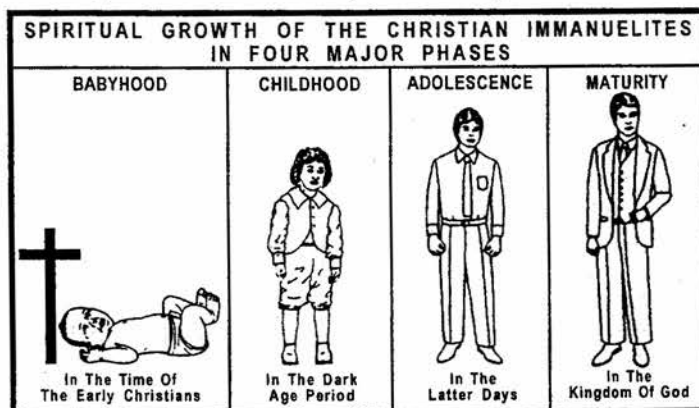
"Since, as has already been pointed out, Christ ('Immanuel') did **not live** in the time of such a **confederacy**, it must be that not only Israel, Syria, and Assyria are types, but Christ Himself is also a type. We learned that Immanuel (meaning 'God with us') could represent only His true followers, the born-again **Christians** {of the Holy Ghost}."—12 *Symbolic Code*, No. 1, pgs. 5, 6 (bold emphasis, braces added).

Now since Jesus never did live in the time of a confederacy, because He went back to heaven in 31 A.D., then it is very obvious that though the first and second parts of the virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:14,15) were fulfilled in Jesus Christ and the early Christians, the third part (Isa 7:16) must be fulfilled in the **Christians** only, even throughout the entire New Testament Christian era for a period of about two thousand years.

CHRISTIANS (IMMANUELITES) LIVE 2000 YEARS

Even though **Jesus** was born of the Holy Spirit in fulfillment of the virgin-birth "sign," and though He lived from babyhood to childhood and on to manhood, being thirty-three years old when He was crucified

(DA 830), yet He only lived the life of **one person**. But "Immanuel" (Isa 7:14) or "Emmanuel" (Mt 1:23), meaning "God with us," also refers to the **Christian Jews** born of the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:4; Jn 3:3) in fulfillment of the "sign" (Isa 7:14). They are **many persons** who are to live in the New Testament Christian era for 2,000 years. And since no one person can live that long, then Immanuel must symbolize the early Christians at their beginning from **babyhood to childhood**, to **adolescence** in the last days, and finally to **maturity** (Eph 5:27) just before Christ's coming. Thus, his growth is not to be numbered in a few years like Christ's life time (33 yrs), but is a symbolic growth numbered in hundreds of years, from the beginning of Christianity up to the time their descendants live when a church-state confederacy is broken, and on beyond to Christ's coming. This confederacy will be explained later on.



MAHERSHALHASHBAZ CHRISTIANS BORN OF THE FLESH CHAPTER 3

THE YOUNGER CHRISTIAN MEMBERS

Besides the Immanuelite Christians, there are the "younger members," (14Tr:38) who also lived during the time of a confederacy and on to the last days. They are **not** born-of-the-Holy-Ghost Christians, whose symbolical name is Immanuel; instead, they are the born-of-the-flesh **Christians** whose symbolical name is **Mahershalhashbaz** (longest name in the Bible).

"Moreover the Lord said unto me {prophet Isaiah}, Take thee a great roll, and write in it with a man's pen concerning **Mahershalhashbaz**.... And I went unto the prophetess; and she conceived, and bare a son. Then said the Lord to me, Call his name Mahershalhashbaz. For **before** the child shall have knowledge to cry, **My Father**, and **my mother**, the riches of Damascus {Syria} and the spoil of Samaria {Israel} shall be taken away {their confederacy broken} before the king of Assyria."—Isaiah 8:1, 3, 4 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"The birth of a son (**Mahershalhashbaz**) to the prophet himself {by his wife the prophetess}, 'for signs and wonders' in Israel (Isa 8:18)."—14 *Tract*, pg. 32:4 (bold emphasis, braces added).

Isaiah "went unto the prophetess" (Isa 8:3)—the married wife of Isaiah, and she had a son. He symbolically represents **another class** of those Christians

who are called "**Mahershalalhashbaz**," and who were born **after** the birth of the Immanuelite Christians. The difference between these two brothers is that the Christians (Immanuel) were born of the **Holy Ghost** (Jn 3:3) as Jesus was born of the Holy Ghost through the virgin Mary (Mt 1:20,21). But the younger of the "two classes of church members" (14Tr 35), being named Mahershalalhashbaz, were born of the **flesh** by the "prophetess" (Isa 8:3), Isaiah's wife. Thus, unlike the Immanuelite Christians born of the Holy Ghost by the will of God, it is obvious that **Mahershalalhashbaz** symbolizes the **Christians** who were **born of the flesh** by the will of their parents!

"...**Mahershalalhashbaz** must be symbolical of another group in the Christian era. And as he knows only to say 'my **father**, and my **mother**,' while 'Immanuel' (Christ in the person of His people) knows to refuse the evil and choose the good, Mahershalalhashbaz... cannot symbolize any who lived **before** Immanuel."—14 Tract, pgs. 34, 35 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Still further, the fact that both were to be born into Judah (the church), one of the **Spirit** {Immanuel} and the other {Mahershalalhashbaz} of the **flesh**, is conclusive evidence of their being, as the prophet says, for 'wonders' and for 'signs' of two classes of church members, **living at the same time**."—14 Tract, pg. 35:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Having being pre-existent with His {Christ's} Father (Heb 1:1,2; Jn 1:1,2), and then having been re-born in Bethlehem, **Immanuel** manifestly represents the '**born again**' Christians (John 3:3); whereas never having been pre-existent, **Mahershalalhashbaz** can only symbolize those **not 'born again'**—that part of the church membership which cannot be represented by Immanuel. A parallel is found in the allegory of Ishmael and Isaac, typifying the 'born after the **flesh**' and the 'born after the **Spirit**'—the non-Christian Jew and the Christian Jew. (Galatians 4:22-31)."—14 Tract, pg. 35:2 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Mahershalalhashbaz manifestly cannot **symbolize** any who lived **before** Immanuel" (14Tr 35), for he was born (Isa 8:3) soon after Immanuel was born (Isa 7:14). So they both must symbolize "two classes of church members, living at the same time" (14Tr 35) "in the Christian era" (14Tr 34,35) in the latter days. The difference between them is that the Mahershalalhashbaz Christians (those born of the flesh) do **not know** their **father** (the Lord God) and their **mother** (His church)!

SOME CHRISTIANS NOT KNOW FATHER, MOTHER

"The overthrow of Israel {breaking of New Testament confederacy by antitypical **Assyria**} to occur **before** Immanuel {Christians born of the Spirit} could learn to differentiate evil from good, and **before** Mahershalalhashbaz {the Christians born of the flesh} could say 'my **father**, and my **mother**' (Isa 7:16; 8:4)."—14 Tract, pg. 32:3 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"...for the {New Testament} confederacy of Israel and Syria, let us remember, was to be broken by {antitypical} Assyria **after** Immanuel was born {long after the ancient confederacy was already broken} but **before** He could 'refuse the evil and choose the

good;' and not only **after** Mahershalalhashbaz was born but also **before** he could say 'my father and my mother.' And the fact that the {Christian} church is still imperfect, shows that even the 'born again' Christians are to this day unable to choose consistently between good and evil, and that those {the Mahershalalhashbaz Christians} who are merely born after the flesh are so undeveloped as to be unable even to lay positive claim to knowing their **father** (**God**) and their **mother** (the **Church**) {of Seventh-day Adventists}."—14 Tract, pgs. 35, 36 (bold emphasis, braces added)

The difference between the older and the younger brother is what food (truth) the older brother (Immanuel Christians) eats (butter and honey), and what the younger brother the (Mahershalalhashbaz Christians) does not know—his **Father** and **mother**. Since the born-of-the-Spirit Immanuelite Christians know their "Father" (God), then the Holy Spirit (which they are born of) would also lead them to know their "mother"—His true church (Rev 12:1), from where the spiritual diet of "butter and honey" is dispensed in the latter days. They are the older Christians who are born unto the house of David, antitypical Judah—Laodicea (14Tr 21:2), God's true church of today—Seventh-day Adventists!

The Older Brother—"The birth of a man-child (**Immanuel**) to a virgin, for a 'sign' to 'the house of David' {Judah} {Isa 7:2,6; 14Tr 21:2} (Isa 7:13,14)."—14 Tract, pg. 32:4 (bold emphasis, braces added).

And His Younger brother—"The birth of a son (**Mahershalalhashbaz**) to the prophet {Isaiah} himself, 'for signs and for wonders' in Israel (Isa . 8:18)."—14 Tract, pg. 32:5 (bold emphasis, braces added).

The born-of-the-flesh **Mahershalalhashbaz** Christians have not accepted all the Reformatory truths; so they have no desire to eat the "butter and honey" (Isa 7:15), because it is "bitter to their carnal taste" (5Tr 50). And they practice many sins which God's ten commandment law condemns, because they do not know how to refuse the evil and choose the good. Thus, they do not know their "**Father**" (**God**), and many ask: "Where is God?" or "Is God dead?" And not knowing Him, they are led to fellowship in the wrong churches on the wrong day (Sunday), which proves that they do not know their "**mother**" (God's true **church**). And there are some who are confused and say that all the churches are God's church! Yet, they are Christians who are born unto Judah (14Tr 35:1) for "signs and wonders" in Israel (14Tr 32:5; Isa 8:3).

One day many **Mahershalalhashbaz Christians** will be saved, after the Immanuelite Christians receive the long awaited "butter and honey," near the end of the New Testament Christian era in the latter days. This is because the Immanuelites will lead the "**younger members**" (14Tr 38) to eat it, so they will know their "**Father**"—**God**, and their "**mother**"—His true **church** (Seventh-day Adventists)!

"However, in conversing or studying with one you know to be a recent {SDA} convert {from the other Protestant Churches}, you should exercise special care and judgment and tact in presenting only the simplest reform truths first, so as not to bewilder the

mind of one who is only a 'babe' (a 'Mahershalahashbaz') in the Scriptures."—5 *Answerer Book*, pg. 50:2 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Hence, each one, even the younger members (the born after the flesh) {Mahershalahashbaz}, can now be enabled to recognize their spiritual parents {their God and His church—mother}, so as to say, 'my Father and my Mother:' for to know their God aright through the Son and to know their church {Laodicea—Seventh-day Adventists} aright through timely Truth, is what brings life eternal."—14 *Tract*, pg. 38:1 (bold emphasis and braces were added).

Therefore, when both Christian brothers (Immanuel and Mahershalahashbaz) follow only one God (Father), and fellowship in only one church (mother), and eat the same spiritual food (butter and honey) to help them refuse the evil and choose the good, then they will become fully grown mature Christians who will be saved in God's soon-coming kingdom—"a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing" (Eph. 5:27); ready for the coming of Jesus.

FOUR MAJOR PHASES OF SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Isaiah's births of the Spirit-born Immanuelite Christians (Isa 7:14), and the flesh-born Mahershalahashbaz Christians (Isa 8:3) were for "signs" and "wonders" from God. It would reveal the four major phases of their spiritual growth since the beginning of Christianity. These four major phases are (see p. 10):

1—Babyhood: Their spiritual birth as babes feeding on "milk" (1Pet 2:2), beginning with Christ's birth.

2—Childhood: Their spiritual growth to childhood during the Dark Ages, when they see a church-state confederacy broken by antitypical Assyria (Isa 7:16; 8:4).

3—Adolescence: Their spiritual growth to adolescence in the last days when they eat "butter and honey" (Isa 7:15), at the time antitypical Assyria forms another church-state confederacy (2TG 41:18,19). They oppose it (13SC 3:8:1) just before antitypical Assyria falls.

4—Maturity: Their spiritual growth to maturity will occur when they become holy and sin no more (Eph 5:27), being ready to meet Jesus at His second advent. This prophetic period of their spiritual growth from babyhood on to maturity for two thousand years, is during the entire New Testament Christian era.

Though individual Christians may die, yet their spiritual growth as a church continues on through their descendants. And their progress during the Christian era determines which spiritual age they live in. So far, their spiritual growth has progressed from babyhood (major phase 1) to childhood (major phase 2), and on to adolescence (major phase 3) in the last days, when antitypical Assyria sets up another church-state confederacy (2TG 41:18:3)—New World Order. It will be a death trap to many in God's church, just before they become mature Immanuelite Christians (major phase 4). It is very important, therefore, to identify this Assyrian power by going back to the time of the spiritual childhood (major phase 2) of these two Christian brothers, when the church-state confederacy of Papal Rome was formed during the Dark Ages. Then the power which broke that Dark-Age

confederacy will be clearly identified as the antitypical Assyria. By studying from the book of Daniel, the truth of this Dark-Age church-state confederacy will be identified to every honest seeker of the truth.

ANTITYPE OF NEW TESTAMENT CONFEDERACY

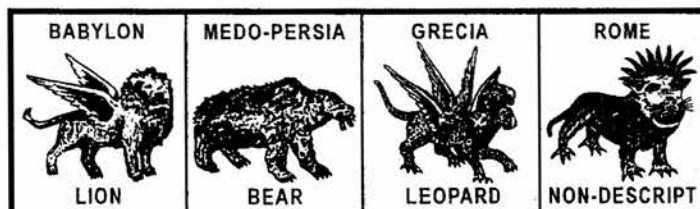
CHAPTER 4

FOUR SYMBOLIC BEASTS

"Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of heaven strove upon the great sea. And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another. The first was like a lion {Babylon},...a second, like to a bear {Medo-Persia},...and lo another, like a leopard {Grecia},... After this I saw...a fourth beast {non-descript}, dreadful and terrible {Pagan Rome},..."—Daniel 7:2-7 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"These great beasts {kingdoms}, which are four, are four kings, which shall arise out of the earth."—Daniel 7:17 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Daniel explains {Dan 7:17} that his four beasts symbolize four world empires, one following the other. And it has been widely understood that they are Babylon, Medo-Persia, Grecia, and Rome."—2 *Timely Greetings*, No. 17, pg. 6:5 (bold emphasis, braces added).



"The four beasts {four great kings or kingdoms} of Daniel 7 {Dan 7:17,23}; namely, the lion, bear, leopard, and the non-descript were shown in the vision as four universal empires coming up one after another. Thus prophecy as well as history proves that Babylon, Medo-Persia, Grecia and Rome succeeded each other. This unbreakable chain of four links makes it impossible to intersect any one of the four beasts with a universal system."—2 *Shepherd's Rod*, pg. 106:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

Bible prophecy along with secular history reveals that Babylon (the lion), Medo-Persia (the bear), and Grecia (the leopard) were world empires in the Old Testament era; while Rome (the non-descript beast) arose between the closing of this era, and the beginning of the New Testament era, when Christ and the Christian Jews (Immanuel) were born of the Holy Ghost. It was during the reign of Pagan Rome that the Immanuelite Christians were spiritually growing up from babyhood to childhood. Rome, however, was divided into two phases—Pagan and Papal Rome.

"As widely accepted, the fourth beast's two-phases—one with ten horns, the other with seven horns, along with the 'little horn' (Daniel 7:7,8)—portray, first, Pagan Rome, and second, Ecclesiastical {Papal} Rome, and the 'little horn' (the horn-head), the power that then ruled, was religious-political {church and state}."—12 *Tract*, pg. 19:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

PAGAN ROME—NON-DESCRIPT BEAST (1ST PHASE)

"After this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth {non-descript} beast {Pagan Rome}, dreadful and terrible, and strong exceedingly; and it had great iron teeth: it devoured and brake in pieces, and stamped the residue with the feet of it: and it was diverse from all the beasts that were before it; and it had ten horns."—Daniel 7:7 (boldings, braces added).

"Following the four-headed leopard {beast of Daniel 7:6} comes the non-descript beast of Daniel 7:7, representing the fourth universal empire from the flood, but the fifth one from creation. **Rome** is represented by a more terrible symbol than the kingdoms before it. There must be a special reason why the Roman monarchy is represented by a non-descript beast. The symbol reveals that the **Roman system** of government was an arrangement that could **not be described**. The nearest approach to a correct name is the term—**non-descript**.



"We shall now consider its government administration. The crucifixion of Christ and the martyrdom of the Christians give evidence that the Roman executive authority was vested in paganism, which was at **war** with Christianity. As these Christians were put to death for refusal to worship the gods of the people, it is evidence that the Jews used the civil arm of Rome to try and enforce their own religious customs; Jesus being an example, for He was crucified as a result of religious controversy. **Rome** in the first century persecuted the Christians, but after adopting Christianity, she ill-treated the pagans; compelling them to join the so-called Christian church. From the evidence gathered, it is plain to see that the Roman monarchy was a tool for either Pagan, Jew, or Christian; alternating in favor of one, and then of the other. Inasmuch as the {religious} character of the Imperial Roman jurisdiction could **not be defined as Pagan, Jewish, or Christian, 'non-descript'** is the only fitting symbol. It is said of Constantine at his death that his subjects knew not what kind of burial to give him, since he was a professed Christian, but at heart a Pagan."—2 *Shepherd's Rod*, pg. 56:2 (bold emphasis, braces added).

It was during the time of Pagan Rome, when the Jewish nation (kingdom of Judah) were still ruled by the Romans, that the virgin-birth "sign" was fulfilled in **Jesus** and the **Christians**. As Jesus Christ was born of the Holy Ghost as a "babe...in a manger" (Lk 2:16), so it was that the Immanuelite Christians were also born of the Holy Ghost as "new-born babes" (1Pet 2:2) in the Christian faith. Then they began to grow up spiritually from babyhood to childhood during the time of Pagan Rome (Dan 7:7). It was after Pagan Rome fell in A.D. 476 by the invasion of the barbarian hordes (12Tr 67:4), that **Papal Rome** (Dan 7:8) rose to power when a church-state confederacy was formed (as in the

ancient type—apostate **Israel** and the heathens of **Syria**) between the apostate Christians (antitypical Israel) and the pagan heathens (antitypical Syria). The reign of Papal Rome was to last (Dan 7:25) a "time" (1 year—360 days), "times" (2 years—720 days), "half a time" (1/2 year—180 days), which is 1260 days or years (Ezek 4:6), then it was broken by antitypical Assyria. But **persecution** against the Immanuelite Christians kept the church separate from the state's national religion of paganism during the time of Pagan Rome, so the church-state confederacy could not be formed.

PERSECUTION DIVIDES CHRISTIANS AND PAGANS

"The spirit of compromise and conformity was restrained for a time by the fierce **persecutions** which the church {**Immanuelite Christians**} endured under paganism {Pagan Rome up to A.D. 476}."—*Great Controversy*, pg. 49:2 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"These **persecutions**, beginning under Nero about the time of the martyrdom of Paul, continued with greater or less fury for centuries {in the time of **Pagan Rome**}. Christians were falsely accused of the most dreadful crimes and declared to be the cause of great calamities—famine, pestilence, and earthquake. As they became the objects of popular hatred and suspicion, informers stood ready, for the sake of gain, to betray the innocent. They were condemned as rebels against the empire, as foes of religion, and pests to society. Great numbers were thrown to wild beasts or burned alive in the amphitheaters. Some were crucified; others were covered with the skins of wild animals, and thrust into the arena to be torn by dogs. Their punishment was often made the chief entertainment at public fetes. Vast multitudes assembled to enjoy the sight, and greeted their dying agonies with laughter and applause."—*Great Controversy*, pg. 40:1 (boldings, braces added).

Isaiah prophesied (Isa 7:16;8:4) that when the older and younger Christians—Immanuel (the born of the Spirit Christians) and Mahershalalhashbaz (the born of the flesh Christians) had grown up spiritually to the **childhood** phase (see p. 10), there would be a confederacy formed; and that later it would be **broken** by an antitypical **Assyria**. But as long as **persecution** continued under the reign of Pagan Rome, it could not be formed. It was after Pagan Rome (Dan 7:7) fell in A.D. 476 by the invasion of the barbarian hordes (12Tr 67:4), and Papal Rome (Dan 7:8), had arisen in A.D. 538, that she adopted Christianity. It was during that time that the apostate Christians (as antitypical Israel, the Catholic church) and pagan heathens (antitypical Syria, the state) formed the "unholy union of **Church** and **State** which ruled during the Dark Ages" (14Tr 33:2).

CONFEDERACY OF CHRISTIANS AND PAGANS

"First is mentioned the history of ancient **Israel's** unsuccessful confederating with **Syria** against Judah, for they could not prevail against her. Instead, both were taken by **Assyria**. Then follows the prophecy (Isa 7:14) of the birth of Immanuel {Jesus Christ}. Since, however, Christ was born long **after** the kings of **Israel** and **Syria** were taken, it is obvious from verse 16 of {Isaiah} chapter 7 that circumstances was to occur at sometime that would be the antitype of the

confederacy which took place anciently between Israel and Syria against Judah, and that in this antitypical period both kings represented by Syria and Israel would be taken by a power represented by **Assyria before** 'Immanuel' {born again Christians} would know the difference between good and evil.—12 *Symbolic Code*, No. 1, pg. 5:2 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Since, as has already been pointed out, Christ ('Immanuel') did not live in the time of such a confederacy, it must be that not only **Israel, Syria, and Assyria** are types, but Christ Himself is also a type. We learned that Immanuel (meaning, 'God with us') could represent only His true followers, the born-again Christians.—12 *Symbolic Code*, No. 1, pgs. 5, 6 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Through these scriptures and historical facts we learned that the antitype of Israel and Syria's confederacy took place commencing in the first century A.D., when one part of the {apostate} Christians (**Israel**) federated with Pagans (**Syria**) against the other {true} Christians (Judah),..."—12 *Symbolic Code*, No. 1, pg. 6:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"In amplification of this cluster of events, several facts stand out in unmistakable self-interpretation: (1) '**Immanuel**,' by virtue of his virgin birth and his name, 'God with us' (Matt. 1:23), can only be Christ with us {Christians}. (2) He was born for a sign that the unholy alliance {church-state confederacy} between Israel and Syria was to come to naught. (3) The lands, Israel and Syria, which Judah abhorred, were to be forsaken of both their kings—conquered by the king of **Assyria**—before Immanuel was to be able to refuse evil and choose good, and before Mahershalalhashbaz was to be able to say 'my father and my mother.'—14 *Tract*, pgs. 32, 33 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"But the simple historical fact that these two kingdoms {Israel and Syria} were overthrown {by ancient Assyria} centuries before Immanuel was ever born, brings a **time-discrepancy** which can be reconciled only by the conclusion that all four nations (Judah, Israel, Syria, and Assyria) involved in this historical action, were typical of four others that were to arise sometime following Immanuel's birth; for after His {Jesus} birth, {antitypical} Israel and Syria were to be conquered by {antitypical} **Assyria**."—14 *Tract*, pg. 33 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Necessarily, then, there must be found in the Christian dispensation a backslidden Christian power (**Israel**) confederated with a pagan one (**Syria**), to the end of assimilating, or annihilating the orthodox Christians (Judah). And the only such confederacy in the Christian era was the unholy union of Church and State which ruled during the Dark Ages {Papal Rome}, and which sought the destruction of the 'born again' {saints—Immanuelite Christians}, who refused to depart from Apostolic faith and submit to a Christian-Pagan (**Israel-Syrian**) {church-state} confederacy."—14 *Tract*, pgs. 33, 34 (bold emphasis, braces added).

The first and second parts of the virgin-birth "sign," which was about "Immanuel" (Isa 7:14) and His diet of "butter and honey" (Isa 7:15), was fulfilled when Christ

and the Christians (Immanuelites) were born of the Holy Ghost during the reign of Pagan Rome. And the third part (Isa 7:16) was fulfilled during the Dark-Age confederacy of Christianity (church) being united with paganism (state) during the reign of **Papal Rome**. To learn more about how this confederacy was **broken** by antitypical **Assyria**, we must study the second phase of the non-descript beast—Papal Rome.

PAPAL ROME—NON-DESCRIPT BEAST (2ND PHASE)

"I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another **little horn** {rise of the **Papacy**}, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were {a **head** with} eyes like the eyes of **man** and a mouth speaking great things {power of **Papal Rome**}."—Daniel 7:8 (bold emphasis, braces added).



"There {Dan 7:8} it is seen that the fourth beast's little horn, having the eyes and mouth of 'man,' actually was a **horn-head**—a combination of two separate elements. And it being symbolical of the **Church** and **State** government (a combination of civil and religious powers during the Middle Ages), settles beyond doubt that while the **horn** part stands for the **civil** phase {state}, the **head** part stands for the **religious** phase {church}—logically, too, because religion should be the brains of any government. Furthermore, civil governments were originally founded upon church governments."—15 *Tract*, pg. 76:1 (boldings, braces added).

This second phase of the Roman Empire, ruled by a confederacy of the Catholic church and the state government of Rome—a horn-state and head-church (Dan 7:8), was called **Papal** or **Ecclesiastical Rome**. It was a new form of government which had united the papal church (the **head**) with the state (the **horn**). And the church (the **head**) dictated their religious dogmas to the people, which was enforced by the Roman state (the **horn**). The rise of Pagan Rome occurred after it had fallen from power in A.D. 476 by the invasion of the "barbarian hordes."

"And with the arms {weapons} of a flood {multitudes of barbarians} shall they {Romans} be overflown {defeated} from before him, and shall be broken {fall of **Pagan Rome**}."—Daniel 11:22 (bold emphasis and braces were added).

"Here is shown the **breakup** of the **Roman empire** {in the year of A.D. 476} at the hands of the **barbarian hordes** which swept down, and, as a flood, overflowed it."—12 *Tract*, pg. 67:4 (bold emphasis, braces were added).

"And after the league {the church-state confederacy between the Christians and the pagans} made with him {**Papal Rome**} he shall work deceitfully: for he shall come up {from ruins of Pagan Rome}, and shall become strong with a **small people** {Christians}."—Daniel 11:23 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"From this prophetic statement, we see that Rome was to rise from its ruin and humiliation, and again become strong, but this time by deceit, and with a 'small people.' In this chain of prophecy, then, Rome is shown in two different phases, Pagan and Ecclesiastical {Papal}, just as it is shown by the fourth symbolical beast of Daniel 7 {vs. 7}. Thus it was that after Pagan Rome saw itself overrun {by barbarian hordes} and humbled to the ground, down and out, so to speak, it conceived a deceit by which to bring itself to power again. The scheme resulted in an ecclesiastical {church} code of laws, the enforcement of which it carried out with a 'small people'—the so-called {few} Christians {the apostates who joined the religion of the many people—the pagans}."—12 *Tract*, pgs. 67-69 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"At the beginning, the serpent (Rev 12:9) persecuted the church, but as he saw that the church still grew and prospered, he reversed his tactics, and began instead to persecute the Pagans who would not join the {Christian} church, and raised ministers by whom to bring in a flood of unconverted by which to paganize the church, so that she could not Christianize them."—1 *Timely Greetings*, No. 21, pgs. 13,14 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"None understood so well how to oppose the true Christian faith as did those who had once been its defenders; and these apostate Christians, uniting {under Papal Rome} with their half-pagan companions, directed their warfare against the most essential features of the doctrines of Christ."—*The Great Controversy*, pg. 45:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Most of the Christians at last consented to lower their standard, and a union {confederacy} was formed between Christianity {antitypical Israel} and paganism {antitypical Syria}. Although the worshipers of idols professed to be converted, and united with the church, they still clung to their idolatry, only changing the objects of their worship to images of Jesus, and even of Mary and the saints. The foul leaven of idolatry, thus brought into the church, continued its baleful work. Unsound doctrines, superstitious rites, and idolatrous ceremonies were incorporated into her faith and worship. As the followers of Christ united {in a church—Israel, state—Syria confederacy} with idolaters, the Christian religion became corrupted, and the church lost her purity and power."—*Great Controversy*, pg. 43:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

MAN OF SIN CONTROLLED CHURCH AND STATE

"This compromise {church-state confederacy} between paganism {antitypical Syria} and Christianity {antitypical Israel} resulted in the development of the 'man of sin' foretold in prophecy {2Thess 2:3,4} as opposing and exalting himself above God. That gigantic system of false religion is a masterpiece of Satan's power—a monument of his efforts to seat himself upon the throne to rule the earth according to his will.... It is one of the leading doctrines of {Papal} Romanism that the pope is the visible head of the universal church of Christ, invested with supreme authority over bishops and pastors in all parts of the world. More than this, the pope has been given the very titles of Deity. He has been styled 'Lord God the

Pope,' and has been declared infallible. He demands the homage of all men. The same claim urged by Satan in the wilderness of temptation {Mt 4:1,9} is still urged by him through the Church of Rome, and vast numbers are ready to yield him homage."—*Great Controversy*, pg. 50:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"In the sixth century the papacy had become firmly established. Its seat of power was fixed in the imperial city, and the bishop of Rome was declared to be the head over the entire church {and state}. Paganism {of Pagan Rome} had given place to the papacy {Papal Rome}. The dragon had given to the beast 'his power, and his seat, and great authority.' And now began the 1260 years of papal oppression foretold in the prophecies of Daniel and the Revelation. {The Immanuelite} Christians were forced to choose, either to yield their integrity and accept the papal ceremonies and worship, or to wear away their lives in dungeons or suffer death by the rack, the fagot, or the headsman's ax."—*Great Controversy*, pg. 54:2 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"The accession of the Roman church {the Papacy} marked the beginning of the Dark Ages {church—Israel, state—Syria confederacy}. As her power increased, the darkness deepened. Faith was transferred from Christ, the true foundation, to the pope of Rome. Instead of trusting in the Son of God for forgiveness of sins and for eternal salvation, the people looked to the pope, and to the priests and prelates to whom he delegated authority. They were taught that the pope was their earthly mediator and that none could approach God except through him; and, further, that he stood in the place of God to them, and was therefore to be implicitly obeyed. A deviation from his requirements was sufficient cause for the severest punishment to be visited upon the bodies and souls of the offenders."—*Great Controversy*, pg. 55:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Now, as we have seen, it is clear that Ecclesiastical {Papal} Rome (the second phase of the nondescript beast) was a combined {apostate Christian} church {as antitypical Israel} and state {as antitypical Syria} power (a horn-head, having 'the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things'—{Dan 7:8})"—12 *Tract*, pg. 22:3 (bold emphasis, braces added).

PAPACY THINKS TO CHANGE TIMES AND LAWS

"And after this I saw in the night visions, and behold a fourth beast {Dan 7:8},...and it had ten horns {governmental states}. I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, ...in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man {the pope of the Catholic church}, and a mouth speaking great things....And he shall speak great words against the most High {the Lord God}, and shall wear out {torture or kill} the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they {the saints} shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time."—Daniel 7:7, 8, 25 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Says Daniel, of the little horn, the papacy: 'He shall think to change the times and the law.' And Paul styled the same power the 'man of sin,' who

was to exalt himself above God. One prophecy is a complement of the other....The **papacy** had attempted to change the law of God...The change in the fourth commandment exactly fulfills the prophecy. For this the only authority claimed is that of the **church**. Here the papal power openly set itself above God....It was in behalf of the Sunday that **popery** first asserted its arrogant claims; and its first resort to the power of the **state** was to compel the observance of Sunday as 'the Lord's day.' But the Bible points to the seventh day, and not to the first, as the Lord's day. Said Christ: 'The Son of man is Lord also of the Sabbath.' The fourth commandment declares, 'The seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord.' And by the prophet Isaiah the Lord designates it: 'My holy day.'—*Great Controversy*, pgs. 446, 447 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"The accountability that rests on the **papacy** {**Papal Rome**} is not the observance of the day, but rather, the desire to change the law of God, as shown in Daniel 7:25, 'Think to change times and laws.' The **papacy** thought to erase the Seventh-day Sabbath from the eternal law, and to inscribe the first day of the week in its place."—2 *Shepherd's Rod*, pgs. 133, 134 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"It is a fact generally admitted by Protestants, that the Scriptures give no authority for the change of the Sabbath....Roman Catholics acknowledge that the change of the Sabbath was made by their church, and declare that Protestants, by observing the Sunday, are recognizing her power....Romanists {of **Papal Rome**} declare that 'the observance of Sunday by the Protestants is an homage they pay, in spite of themselves, to the authority of the [Catholic] **church**.'"—*Great Controversy*, pgs. 447, 448 (brackets belong) (bold emphasis, braces added).

It is now evident that God made no mistake when He inspired Isaiah with the prophecy of the virgin-birth "sign" in the days of Ahaz, king of Judah. The Lord wanted his people in the latter days to understand that the ancient church-state confederacy between **Israel** (the **church**) and **Syria** (the **state**) was a type of the Dark-Age church-state confederacy between the apostate Christians (antitypical **Israel**) and the pagan heathens (antitypical **Syria**), during the 1260-year (Dan 7:25) reign of **Papal Rome**.

Before the ancient Israel-Syrian confederacy was formed, Jereboam, king of apostate Israel, set up the "two calves of gold" in Bethel and Dan (1Ki 12:28,29) to worship Baal instead of the Lord. So it is that the apostate Christians (antitypical **Israel—church**), during the reign of **Papal Rome**, united with paganism (antitypical **Syria—state**) to worship Baal by keeping Sunday instead of worshiping the Lord by keeping the Sabbath. It was years later, after Jereboam had set up Baal worship, that apostate **Israel** united in a **confederacy** with **Syria**, which was finally broken by **Assyria**; so it will be in the antitype. According to the prophecy of Isaiah (Isa 7:16,8:4), it was while **Papal Rome** reigned for 1260 years during the Dark-Age church-state Confederacy, when both classes of Christians (Immanuel and Mahershalalhashbaz) had grown up to childhood, that **antitypical Assyria** broke that papal church (Israel) state (Syria) confederacy.

ANTYTYPICAL ASSYRIA BROKE THE DARK-AGE CONFEDERACY

CHAPTER 5

MARTIN LUTHER BEGAN THE REFORMATION

Martin Luther was not the first Christian who had ever spoken against the papacy, because there were before him millions of other Christians who had been martyred for daring to rebuke that apostate power; but it was not to reign forever. It was Daniel who prophesied (Dan 7:25) that the horn-head (state-church) confederacy was to rule during the Dark-Age period for only 1260 years: "time" (1 year or 360 days); "times" (2 years or 720 days); and "dividing of times" (1/2 year or 180 days), which is a total of 1260 days or years (Ez 4:6), from 538 A.D. to 1798 A.D. This 1260-year limitation given to Papal Rome is the same that Isaiah's prophesy predicted, according to the virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:16), that this antitypical church-state confederacy was to be broken by the power of antitypical **Assyria** (Isa 7:16;8:4). Though it is true that ancient Assyria broke the typical church-state confederacy (Isa 7:1), yet, God was credited with its overthrow. And so it is in the antitype, though antitypical **Assyria** broke the Dark-Age confederacy, Martin Luther gave God the credit for its overthrow.

"I {Luther} will preach, discuss, and write; but I will constrain none, for faith is a voluntary act. See what I have done. I stood up against the **pope**, indulgences, and papists, but without violence or tumult. I put forward God's word; I preached and wrote—this was all I did. And yet while I was asleep,...the word that I had preached overthrew **popery**, so that neither prince nor emperor has done it so much harm. And yet I did nothing; the word alone did it all. If I had wished to appeal to force, the whole of Germany would perhaps have been deluged with blood."—*Great Controversy*, pg. 190:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

Though Martin Luther preached "the just shall live by faith" to free the Christian **church** from the power of the **papacy** by the Reformation, the princes of the **state** joined with him, and voiced their **protest**:

"The priests demanded that the **states** which had accepted the reformation submit implicitly to Romish {**church**} jurisdiction."—*Great Controversy*, pg. 199:1.

THE PRINCES BEGAN PROTESTANTISM

"'Let us reject this decree,' said the princes. 'In matters of conscience the majority has no power.'...To protect liberty of conscience is the duty of the state, and this is the limit of its authority in matters of religion. Every secular government {**state**} that attempts to regulate or enforce religious observance {**church**} by civil authority is sacrificing the very principle for which the evangelical Christians so nobly struggled."—*Great Controversy*, pg. 201:1 (boldings, braces added).

"As Ferdinand {the king of Germany} had refused to regard their conscientious convictions, the {German} princes decided not to heed his absence, but to bring their **Protest** before the national council without delay. A solemn declaration was therefore drawn up, and presented to the Diet:"—*The Great Controversy*, pg. 202:3 (bold emphasis and braces added).

"We **protest** by these presents, before God, our only Creator, Preserver, Redeemer, and Saviour, and who will one day be our Judge, as well as before all men and all creatures, that we, for us and for our people, neither consent nor adhere in any manner whatsoever to the proposed decree {from the **papal hierarchy**}, in anything that is contrary to God, to His holy word, to our conscience, to the salvation of our souls."—*Great Controversy*, pgs. 202, 203 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Their **protest** {of German Princes} gave to the reformed church the name of **Protestant**; its principles are 'the very essence of **Protestantism**.'"—*Great Controversy*, pg. 197:1 (bold emphasis added).

When Luther "fathered forth **Protestantism**" (2Ans. 22), it began a struggle between the German princes of the **state** and the papal hierarchy, the **church**. And it continued for many years until the power of the papacy was **broken** by antitypical **Assyria** (the **Protestant Nations**) at the downfall of Papal Rome, which fulfilled the "sign" (Isa 7:16; 8:4) of the virgin-birth. As a result, the pope was taken captive in 1798, which ended the long reign of 1260 years (Dan 7:25) of the Dark-Age confederacy. Thus, the papal **church** (head) could not dictate its religious dogmas (a mixture of paganism and perverted Christianity) to the people, and then use the pagan **state** (horn) to force them (by a death penalty) to accept their false doctrines.

THE PAPACY RECEIVED A DEADLY WOUND

"John says: 'I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death' {Rev 13:3}. As the wounded **head** {the Catholic **church**} has reference to the stroke delivered to the **papacy** by Luther, the exile of the pope in 1798 was a sign of the completeness of the wound and that the prophetic period had ended. Thus fulfilling the words: 'He that leadeth in captivity shall go into captivity.' (Rev 13:10)."—2 *Shepherd's Rod*, pg. 96:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"The 1260 years of papal supremacy {the Dark-Age **church-state confederacy**} began A.D. 538, and would therefore terminate in 1798. At that time a French army entered Rome, and made the pope a prisoner, and he died in exile. Though a new pope was soon afterward elected, the papal hierarchy {**church**} has never since been able to wield the power {of the **state**} which it before possessed."—*Great Controversy*, pg. 266:3 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Had not the **papacy** {the **Catholic church**} received the deadly wound by Luther, the pope could not have been put into prison by the French general {of the **state**}, for before the pontifical authority {of the **Catholic church**} received Luther's sword, the pope reigned supreme {by the power of the **state**}. But the blow weakened his power, and the result was that Protestantism came upon the stage of action. The continual infliction began to irritate the 'head,' until finally the pope landed behind the prison bars. The annoyance continued until 1870, when ultimately the temporal {**state**} power of the pope was taken away. That being the last vexation of the 'head,' it showed that it was left to heal its 'deadly wound.'"—2 *Shep. Rod*, pg. 96:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

Martin Luther and the Christian reformers did not "appeal to force" (GC 196) against the papacy. Instead, they appealed to the truth of the reformation—"the just shall live by faith," which the papacy had trodden underfoot; and "Protestantism came on the stage of action" (2SR 96). The **protest** of the German princes, however, along with the civil rulers of other nations who **protested** with them against the yoke of **papal** (**church**) tyranny, led them to "appeal to force." The power of the **state** government of the French army (GC 286) was used to bring about the fall of Papal Rome in 1798, when the pope was put in prison.

And since the two words: "**protestant**" (**protest** of the governments), and "reformation" (to reform the **church**), means that the rulers (princes) of the civil governments (**state**) had **protested** in behalf of the Reformation for the church, then this proves that it was the combined power of the **protesting nations**, strengthened by the Word of God, that finally broke the papal power, after it had been "weakened" by the Reformation. And that combined civil power of **state** governments is still known to this day as the "**Protestant Nations**." Therefore, they represent antitypical **Assyria**, the power which broke the Dark-Age horn-head confederacy, which the "horn" part was the pagan civil government (typified by ancient **Syria**) and the "head" part was the apostate Christians (typified by ancient **Israel**), in fulfillment of the virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:16). These facts prove that the horn (state-Syria) head (church-Israel) confederacy was **broken** by an infliction (Luther's "blow"), which included two other blows, beginning with Martin Luther:

"Note carefully that the deadly wound was not inflicted by any one of the ten horns (like the little horn of Dan 7:8, after which three fell). If any of the horns had inflicted the wound, it would indicate that it was to be delivered by a civil power (thus Berthier could be credited for delivering the **blow**). But since the horns had nothing to do with the head, it is evident that the infliction came from within the head, therefore **Luther** is the only one {of the church} who can be **credited** for delivering the **blow**."—1 *Shepherd's Rod*, pg. 215:2 (bold emphasis, braces were added).

MARTIN LUTHER'S BLOW AGAINST THE PAPACY

Martin Luther did not preach against the sins of the Roman Empire; instead, he preached against the sins of the **papal church**. And that is the reason why he was "the only one {of the Catholic church} who can be **credited** for delivering the **blow**" to the papacy, not the state. This is evident by the fact that from the beginning of sin, the world has always been divided into two classes of peoples—the religious and the political. Papal Rome, however, was an unusual government—a confederacy of the religious (church) and political (state), which was ruled by the dogmas and traditions of the Catholic church—the papacy. And since Martin Luther only afflicted the **religious side** of Papal Rome (the church), which had **weakened** its control of the political side (the state), then that is why the "deadly wound" on the papal head (Rev 13:3) was "not of a single momentary act, but rather of an extended **series of events**" (7T-34:3) which finally caused the downfall of Papal Rome!

And though the "series of events" did not include any specific number of inflictions, there are at least three events that has been recorded as inflictions:

A BRIEF REVIEW OF THREE INFLECTIONS

First Infliction: It was Luther's "blow" (GC 190:1; 2SR 98:2) that first inflicted the papal Church in 1500, by his preaching "the just shall live by faith: (Rom 1:17).

Second Infliction: As a result of Luther's infliction, which strengthened the civil governments, the french general Berthier (1SR 215; GC 286) took the pope captive in 1798. And this led to the second infliction in 1870 (2SR 96:1), when the papal church lost it's civil power.

Third Infliction: The papal church, however, was still united with the Roman state, because they would never break up their church-state confederacy. Thus, it was not the papacy, but the state governments who caused the **third infliction** to the papal head, when the "power in the Middle Ages broke up that church-state union...by the present Protestant Nations" (14Tr 34:1). These nations are symbolized by the **ten horns** on the leopard-like beast, which has upon their heads the "ten crowns" of **authority** (Rev 13:1) to rule the world.

In 1929 the papacy received back its civil power (1SR 209), which not only meant that his second infliction was healed, but it also proved that his loss of civil power in 1870 was his second infliction; otherwise it couldn't be healed if it was not an infliction. This three-stage infliction means the "deadly wound" must also be healed (Rev 13:3) in three stages. Write to the address at the end for more information.

It was this three-stage infliction, the last of which came from the **Protestant Nations**, when they separated themselves from the Catholic church, which caused the papal "head" (Catholicism) to receive a "deadly wound" (Rev 13:3), and which broke up the "horn" (state) "head" (church) confederacy (Dan 7:8, 25) of Papal Rome. This fact is important to note, because it is obvious that if these nations had not **protested** in favor of Luther's Reformation and broke away from Catholicism, then his Reformation would have failed to separate the church from the state. Then the "head" would not have had a "deadly wound" (Rev 13:3), and the "head" (church) "horn" (state) confederacy would have continued after another pope (GC 266:3; 1SR 216:1) is elected.

"The head {Catholic church} that was wounded {by Luther's blow} was not much troubled because a pope had fallen under the sod {taken captive in 1798 and died in 1799}, nor will it ever be as long as **another** {pope} can {be elected to} fill his place. The only thing that has worried the head {papacy} and annoyed the beast is true **Protestantism**."—1 *Shepherd's Rod*, pg. 216:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

According to the type (Isa 7:1), it was the power of ancient **Assyria** (2Ki 16:5,7-9; 18:11) who broke up the confederacy between apostate Israel (an apostate church) and Syria (a state government). And according to the virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:14-16), it was the third infliction by the power of antitypical **Assyria** (the **Protestant Nations**) who broke up the Israel (an apostate church—Catholicism) and Syria (a state government—Papal Rome), as noted in the following references.

ANTITYPICAL ASSYRIA—PROTESTANT NATIONS

"...the one power, being called '**Assyria**' {Christian world—the **Protestant Nations**}, has a hereditary title, which reveals that it is the modern counterpart of the once widespread empire of ancient Assyria,..."—14 *Tract*, pg. 6:1 (boldings, braces added).

"Foretelling, to Daniel, the work of this wicked power {the **papal hierarchy**—apostate **Catholicism**}, the angel declared: 'And he shall speak great words against the Most High {the Lord God}, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and think to change time and laws: and they {Christians} shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time.' Dan 7:25 {1260 years—538 to 1798}. As a natural consequence, therefore, the type, ancient Assyria, finds its 'double' {antitype} in the power which in the Middle Ages broke up that church-state union {horn-head on non-descript beast}. And as that **union** {the papal church (Israel) and state (Syria) **confederacy**} was dissolved by the present **Protestant Nations**, the conclusion inescapably follows that modern **Assyria** reaches down to our day,..."—14 *Tract*, pg. 34:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Through these scriptures and historical facts we learned that the antitype of {ancient} Israel and Syria's confederacy took place commencing in the first century A.D., when one part of the {apostate} Christians (**Israel**) {a church} federated with Pagans (**Syria**) {a state government} against the other Christians (Judah) {the saints}, but their combined **church-state** power was broken by the **Protestant nations (Assyria)** after Immanuel (born-again Christians) came...."—12 *Symbolic Code*, No. 1, pg. 6:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).



Most of the people of modern-day **Assyria** (the **Protestant Nations**) speak English; they would be the United States of America, Australia, Belgium, Canada, England, Liberia, New Zealand, Scotland, South Africa. And the rest of the people who do not speak English would be Denmark, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland.

As it was ancient **Assyria**, whose capital city was **Nineveh**, which broke up the Israel (church) Syria (state) confederacy in the days of king Ahaz, so in the latter days it was antitypical **Assyria** (the **Protestant Nations**) that broke up the Dark-Age church-state confederacy of apostate Christians (typified by Israel, a church), and pagan heathens (typified by Syria, a state government). Also, we must "bear in mind that the church is **not Nineveh**" (11SC 8:102), which

was the capital city of **Assyria**, just as ancient Assyria and its capital city, Nineveh, was a nation, **not a church**. This is symbolized by Daniel's fourth non-descript beast (Dan 7:8), who depicts the ruling power of the horn (state) head (church) confederacy of the papacy in its glory, but **not its destruction**. So, another beast must follow to show his fall.

The next beast that follows is the fifth (2SR 86:2) leopard-like beast. He symbolizes antitypical **Assyria** who broke up the Dark-Age church-state confederacy. This Assyrian beast is not a church (11SC 8:10:2), but its seven "heads" are churches (Catholic and Protestant). His "ten horns" represent the "**Protestant Nations (Assyria)**," which rules the world during the protestant period in the "time of the end"—the latter days.

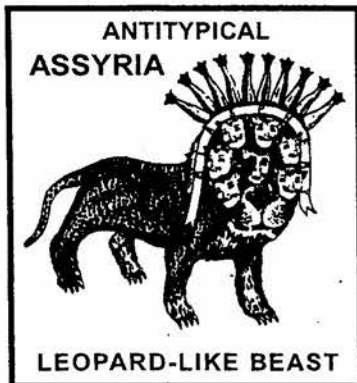
PROTESTANT NATIONS—TEN HORNS ON LL BEAST

"And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a **beast** rise up out of the sea {the reign of antitypical **Assyria**}, having seven heads {churches} and ten horns {the **Protestant Nations**}, and upon his horns ten **crowns** {of authority to rule}, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy. And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard {showing he descended from Grecia}, and his feet were as the feet of a bear {showing he also descended from Medo-Persia}, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion {showing he also descended from Babylon}: and the dragon {devil Rev 12:9} gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority. And I saw one of his heads {the Catholic church} as it were wounded to death {in three stages}; and his deadly wound was healed {in three stages}: and all the world wondered after the beast."—Revelation 13:1-3 (bold emphasis and braces were added).

"The non-descript beast {Dan 7:7} in its first stage, represents imperial {Pagan} Rome, and in his second stage, Papal Rome up to 1798, at which time the beast came to its end with the imprisonment of Pope Pius VI, and gave place to the 'leopard-like beast' of Revelation 13:1-3 {world ruled by the **Protestant Nations** (GC 442:1) **Assyria**, the **ten horns**}.—2 *Shepherd's Rod*, pg. 140:3 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Consequently, the leopard-like beast {**Assyria**} of Revelation 13:1-9, must follow the non-descript beast {Papal} (Rome) {his 2nd phase}."—2 *Shepherd's Rod*, pg. 86:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"The composite make-up of this {leopard-like} beast—mouth of a lion, feet of a bear, body of a leopard, and ten horns—is faithful witness that he is a descendant of Babylon (lion), Medo-Persia (bear), and Pagan Rome (ten horns). Hence this beast is the melting pot of the four ancient world empires, and must, along with its seven heads {the churches of Christendom} and **ten horns** {**Protestant Nations**}, characterize the world of today {**Assyria**}.—12 *Tract*, pg. 21:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).



There are some who think that the entire leopard-like beast is the **papacy**, because of this statement: "Then to learn what the image is like, and how it is to be formed, we must study the characteristics of the beast itself—the **papacy**" (GC 443:2). But this statement can only lead one to a wrong conclusion if the statement on the previous page is ignored. It says:

"The prediction that it will speak 'as a dragon,' and exercise 'all the power of the first beast,' plainly foretells a development of the spirit of intolerance and persecution that was manifested by the **nations** represented by the dragon and the **leopard-like beast**."—*Great Controversy*, pg. 442:1 (boldings, braces added).

When the two statements are joined together, they prove irrefutably that the entire beast is **not** the papacy; because one statement (GC 442) says the leopard-like beast is the "**nations**" of **protestantism**, which would be its ten horns of civil governments with their crowns of authority over the churches (12Tr 23:0). And the other statement (GC 443) says its wounded head (the Catholic church) is the **papacy**; which means that the other six heads would be the churches who protested against Catholicism and broke away.

"This prophecy {of the leopard-like beast} pictures the entire civilization {the world of today—**Assyria**} which came out through the four universal empires by the fall of {Papal} Rome. But it cannot include other nations and peoples, for the makeup of the beast is composed only of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Grecia, and Rome, as previously explained. Had the number of horns been 'seven,' it would have the Biblical meaning (all), but since the number 'ten' is used, all other are excluded.

"However, the nations and peoples who are excluded by the symbol 'ten,' and also by the composition of the beast are not altogether left out, for the fall of the three horns on the beast of Dan 7:8, left a balance of the Biblical number 'seven.' Thus the fall of the three kings; namely, the Heruli, Ostrogoths, and the Vandals gave the signal for the present close union with the entire world by modern inventions. Therefore, the influence of the western civilization {**ten horns—Protestant Nations**}, both civil and religious (represented by the symbols—horns and heads), involved the entire present civilization."—1 *Shepherd's Rod*, pgs. 213, 214 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"...the heads, seven in number, portray religious bodies, Christendom in its entirety. The horns, though, ten in number, portray the civil governments in their entirety. Both **horns** {the **Protestant Nations**} and heads {the Christian Churches} therefore represent the world of today {the reign of antitypical **Assyria**} just as each of Daniel's four beasts respectively, represented the world in their day."—2 *Timely Greetings*, No. 17, pg. 7:3 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"The crowns {on the **ten horns** of the leopard-like beast—**Assyria**} denote these kings {the **Protestant Nations**} have received their kingdom, but note carefully the heads {Christian Churches} are without crowns. Therefore these seven heads cannot represent kingdoms or civil governments {as do the ten horns}."—1 *Shep. Rod*, pg. 212:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"The six heads {churches} represent Protestantism, and the one which was wounded, Catholicism. The six Protestant, and the one Catholic head make the Biblical number 'seven,' meaning 'complete' (all). The **ten horns** {**Protestant Nations**} represent this present civilization {**Assyria**} under civil power; the heads are symbolic of all Christendom."—1 *Shepherd's Rod*, pg. 213:2 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Before the 1260 years ended in 1798, the four Protestant denominations were already in existence; namely, Luthern, Presbyterian, Methodist, and Christian. But after 1798 came the First-day Adventists; and the Seventh-day Adventists from 1844 to 1929 completed his seven heads."—2 *Shepherd's Rod*, pg. 107:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"The deadly wound {*Rev 13:3*} on the leopard-like {beast} therefore represents the deadly blow which it {papal head} received from the **Protestant** Reformation {and **Protestant Nations**}. Hence its wounded head represents the horn-head power (an amalgamation of **civil** {**state**} and **religious** {**church**} powers) of Daniel's {non-descript} beast divested of his civil power—dehorned."—2 *Timely Greetings*, No. 17, pg. 7:2 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Now as we have seen, it is clear that Ecclesiastical Rome (the second phase of the non-descript beast) was a combined church and state power (a horn-head, having 'the eyes of a man, and a mouth speaking great things'—Dan 7:8), and that the **Protestant** Reformation {**church** and the **Protestant Nations**—the **state**} caused the separation of the two."—12 *Tract*, pg. 22:2 (bold emphasis, braces added).

The symbolical representation of the leopard-like beast (*Rev 13:1-9*) perfectly depicts the "world of today"—the separation of church and state, caused by the Protestant Reformation, and the breaking of its power by the "ten horns"—**Protestant Nations**—**Assyria**. That is, the purpose of the Protestant Reformation was to reform the church, not the state; because Luther said nothing against the power of the state (horn), but against the Catholic church (head) for using the power of the state (horn) to persecute and kill the saints. And though his reformation did reform the church, it could not have accomplished its full purpose if the state governments (ten horns) of the fourth non-descript beast (Papal Rome) did not see the need to separate from the church.

Therefore, when the fifth leopard-like beast that followed the fall of Papal Rome had crowns on its **ten horns**, it meant that these state governments (**Protestant Nations**) had separated themselves from the domination of the Catholic church (head), and now possessed crowns of authority to rule the world of today—**Assyria**. And thus, being independent of the churches (six heads), it is obvious that they must symbolize the Protestant Churches of the Reformation; while the one head "wounded to death" (*Rev 13:3*) is the papacy having lost its power to rule by the confederacy of state and church (horn-head) on the non-descript fourth beast.

All of this came to pass according to the virgin-birth "sign" (*Isa 7:16*), because "a time-discrepancy" projected

this prophecy into the New Testament Christian era, which was fulfilled in this manner: After the Immanuelite Christians were born of the Holy Ghost (*Acts 2:1-4*) as "newborn **babes**" (*1Pet 2:2*), but before they knew the difference between the good and the evil, they grew up spiritually to the **childhood** stage during the 1260-year reign of Ecclesiastical or Papal Rome. It was during the period of the Dark Ages (538-1798) that these Immanuelite Christians, according to the virgin-birth "sign" (*Isa 7:16*), were to see a church-state **confederacy**—the apostate Christians (**church**) typified by ancient **Israel**, and the **pagans** (**state**) typified by ancient **Syria**, which were symbolized by the horn-head on the fourth non-descript beast.

And, according to the same virgin-birth "sign" (*Isa 7:16*), the born-again Christians were also to see this confederacy broken by antitypical **Assyria**, which is the "**ten horns**" on the leopard-like beast—the **Protestant Nations**. These leading nations (ten horns—antitypical **Assyria**) which rules the masses of the peoples (leopard-like beast's body), and which make up the world of today, have continued to exist to this very day in the latter days of this world's history.

ASSYRIA EXISTS IN THE TIME OF THE END

"From this we see that the **Assyria** {leopard-like beast with **ten horns**—**Protestant Nations**} under discussion exists in the time of the end {the latter days}, the time in which the great and dreadful day of the Lord takes place."—1 *Timely Greetings*, No. 23, pgs. 5, 6 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"...the '**Assyria**' here in prophecy {*Nah. 1:1,3,18*}, therefore, is not ancient Assyria, but another widespread power {**Protestant Nations**} that exists 'in the time of the end' (Dan 12:9,10), the time in which its yoke is removed from God's people."—1 *Timely Greetings*, No. 24, pg. 13:4 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"The period we are now in {the latter days or time of the end} is antitypical **Assyria** {leopard-like beast with **ten horns**—**Protestant Nations**}."—12 *Symbolic Code*, No. 1, pg. 7:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

So it is that in the time of the end, the leopard-like beast represents the people in the world of today, while the "**ten horns**" represents the **Protestant Nations** (antitypical **Assyria**), which has crowns of authority to rule over the people. Therefore, the ten horns (state governments) cannot be the same as the one wounded head (the papacy—the Catholic church), or the six heads (the Protestant Churches).

ASSYRIA IS NOT THE PROTESTANT CHURCHES

"So while Ecclesiastical Rome's rise and reign are prefigured by the non-descript beast's horn-head, her downfall is depicted by the leopard-like beast's wounded common head—the horned part (the civil power) having been taken away {by antitypical **Assyria**—**Protestant Nations**}. The {papal-Catholic} church was stripped of the sovereign {civil} power with which the state had clothed her, with the result that the {Protestant} governments are now independent of the church, and the {Protestant} **church** {six heads} is in subjection to the {**state**} governments {10 horns of **Assyria**}."—12 *Tract*, pgs. 22, 23 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"It would have been unwise, and useless to devise this prophetic {leopard-like} beast {**Assyria**} if the symbols {seven heads} would fail to reveal **Protestantism** {six heads} as they do Catholicism {one wounded head}. Before the 1260 years ended in 1798, the four Protestant denominations were already in existence; namely, Lutheran, Presbyterian, Methodist, and Christian {and then the Catholic church became the wounded head in 1798}. But after 1798 came the First-day Adventists {sixth head}; and the **Seventh-day Adventists** {Laodicea—7th head} from 1844 to 1929 completed his seven heads....As all other sects are but off-shoots from these seven bodies, the heads included all Christendom up to 1930."—2 *Shepherd's Rod*, pg. 107:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Two peoples are brought to view, the church {of God—Laodicea, the seventh head}, and a nation comparable to ancient **Assyria** {the state}, to which the **church** is under subjection."—1 *Timely Greetings*, No. 24, pg. 17:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

God's people in His church—Laodicea (the seventh head on the leopard-like beast) are symbolically represented as Immanuelite Christians. Today, as **adolescents**, they are living in the time of the reign of antitypical **Assyria** (the ten horns on the leopard-like beast) in the latter days, having grown up spiritually from the **babyhood** stage (early Christians), and beyond their **childhood** stage during the Dark Age period (538-1798), when they saw the papal confederacy broken by **Assyria**. They are more knowledgeable of spiritual things than their "younger members" (14Tr 38), Mahershalahashbaz. And that is because they have not only accepted the truths of the Reformation, but other additional truths (EW277) as well.

The "world of today" (2TG 17:7) is represented by the leopard-like beast, whose ten horns (world's leading governmental rulers) are crowned with civil authority, representing the **Protestant Nations** (antitypical **Assyria**). Whereas the six heads (the Protestant Churches), which do not have crowns, proves that the Protestant Nations rule over the Protestant Churches, who are "in subjection to the governments" (12Tr 23:0). It is for this reason that antitypical **Assyria** must always be referred to as the **Protestant Nations** only, and never as the Protestant Churches; yet, the ten horns (governments) are influenced and directed by the six heads (Protestant Churches).

"Furthermore, **civil** governments {of nations} were originally **founded** upon **church** governments. The symbolism {Dan 7:8} thus clearly connotes that an Atheistic government is about as good as is any horn apart from its head. Such might even be compared to a chicken with its head off: In its plight, the headless chicken jumps with great force, but it knows not where it is going, and it lives but a few minutes."—15 *Tract*, pg. 76:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

The six heads (churches) are Protestant, and they influence and direct the **ten horns** (**Protestant Nations**—the governments of the world), even though the heads (churches) are ruled by the horns, with the state governments separate from the Protestant Churches. This is especially true in America, a protestant nation, where its laws are basic to the faith

of the protestant churches, because the same people in the churches (seven heads), also elect representatives whom they believe will use their influence and voting power to make sure that the laws enacted for the state (horns) are compatible to the religious faith of the churches (heads). The same is true in Catholic countries where that religion influences the legislators to enact laws in its favor.

A good example of the church (head) influencing and directing the state (horn) is the Hindu religion in India, where the cow is considered "sacred" by the believers of that religion, which is enforced by some state laws. And though the Protestant Churches (heads) in America are in subjection to the state (horns), the heads must influence and direct the horns; otherwise this protestant nation would be like a chicken with its head cut off, and must come to its end. History proved this to be true when the church (head) of France was cut off, causing the french revolution.

"France is the only nation in the world concerning which the authentic record survives, that as a nation she lifted her hand in **open rebellion** against the Author of the universe {God the Father}."—*Great Controversy*, pg. 270:0 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"But unhappy France **prohibited the Bible**, and banned its disciples" (GC 278:0). "Paris became one vast almshouse,...two hundred thousand paupers claimed charity from the hands of the king....The gospel would have brought to France the solution to those political and social problems that baffled the skill of her clergy, her king, and her legislators, and finally plunged the nation into anarchy and ruin."—*Great Controversy*, pg. 279:2 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Atheists, infidels, and apostates oppose and denounce God's law; but the results of their influence prove that the **well-being** of man is bound up with his obedience of the divine {Bible} statutes. Those who will not read the lesson from the book of God, are bidden to read it in the history of nations."—*Great Controversy*, pg. 285:3 (bold emphasis, braces added).

It was the terrible results of the French revolution which provided irrefutable proof that the worldly governments must be influenced by its churches, even though the churches are in subjection to the governments (12Tr 23:0). These facts prove the power of antitypical **Assyria** is not symbolized by the one wounded head (papal Catholicism) or by Protestant Churches (the six heads), but by the **Protestant Nations** who primarily speak English and a few other languages. They are nations who protested against the papacy, which caused its head to be wounded; and they are the dominating power of antitypical **Assyria**—the ten horns on the leopard-like beast (the world of today).

ONLY CERTAIN NATIONS MENTIONED IN THE BIBLE

"The kingdoms {of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Grecia, Rome} that have gone down, the kingdoms that still exist {of the LL beast Rev 13:1}, the kingdoms that are yet to come {of SC beast Rev 17:3}, whose **legislation** involve God's **people** {**Jews** in the Old Testament and **Christians** in the New Testament}, have been pictorially chronicled by both Daniel and John the Revelator."—12 *Tract*, pg. 6:3 (bold emphasis, braces added).

In the days of Abraham the Hebrew (Gen 14:13), he was called of God for a divine purpose: to bring forth the twelve tribes of the kingdom of Israel by his seed. Thus, the people of God was Israel in the Old Testament Jewish era. Secular history reveals the fact that there were many other nations besides ancient Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Grecia, Rome, etc., but only those nations that were directly connected with the Hebrews were recorded in the Bible.

So it is in the New Testament Christian era concerning God's people, the Christians. It is for this reason that the kingdom of Rome in its two phases: Pagan Rome, the non-descript beast with ten horns (Dan 7:7) and Papal Rome the non-descript beast with a horn-head (Dan 7:8), as well as the dominating power of the world today (antitypical Assyria), which is the **Protestant Nations**, the **ten horns** on the leopard-like beast (Rev 13:1-3), are recorded in the Bible. That, of course, is because they are directly connected with the people of the English-speaking Christian world.

ASSYRIA—ENGLISH-SPEAKING CHRISTIAN WORLD

"Assyria {today, the **Protestant Nations**}, charges Inspiration, is a rejoicing city, that dwells carelessly, that says in her heart, 'I am, and there is none beside me.' Zeph. 2:15."—1 *Timely Greetings*, No. 23, pg. 6:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"Woe to her {antitypical **Assyria—Protestant Nations**} that is filthy and polluted, to the oppressing city! She obeyed not the voice {of God}; she received not correction; she trusted not in the Lord; she drew not near to her God. Her princes within her are roaring lions; her judges are evening wolves; they gnaw not the bones {accumulated wealth} till the morrow {because they have so much}. Her prophets {great evangelists} are light and treacherous persons: her priests have polluted the sanctuary, they {Protestant Churches} have done violence to the {ten commandment} law."—Zephaniah 3:1-4 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"At this point let us pause a moment and summarize the characteristics by which this modern **Assyria** {**Protestant Nations**} is to be identified. (1) As man looks at things, she is so great that there is none like her. She is well instructed in the things of God. (2) She is oppressive, a hard ruling nation. (3) She has polluted the sanctuary and has declared the law of God void. (4) She has piled up wealth by going after it as an evening wolf goes after its prey. (5) She harbors the church of God {Laodicea--Seventh-day Adventists}. (6) She exists in the time the Lord is to manifest His power and destroy all wicked nations. (7) She is an **Assyrian-like** nation, widespread, a nation of conquests."—1 *Timely Greetings*, No. 23:6:2 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"There is but one people under the sun that answers to all these descriptions, and that people is, of course, the **English-speaking people**, in whose midst is the church, and from whose midst the Gospel and the Bible flow out to all nations. As clear as language can make it, the burden of the prophet Zephaniah is for the **English-speaking Christian world** {**Protestant Nations--Assyria**}. "—1 *Timely Greetings*, No. 23:6:3 (bold emphasis and braces were added).

"Now in view of the truth that we are living in such a period as described by Nahum, together with the fact that preparations for Nahum's war are made during a time of such lightning-like travel, the evidence clearly stands out that Nahum's prophecy is to meet its fulfillment in our day, and that the '**Assyria**' here in prophecy {whose capital city is Nineveh, Nah 1:1:2:8}, therefore, is not ancient Assyria, but another widespread power {**Protestant Nations**} that exists 'in the time of the end (Dan. 12:9,10) the time in which its yoke is removed from God's people.'"—1 *Timely Greetings*, No. 24, pg. 13:4 (bold emphasis, braces added).

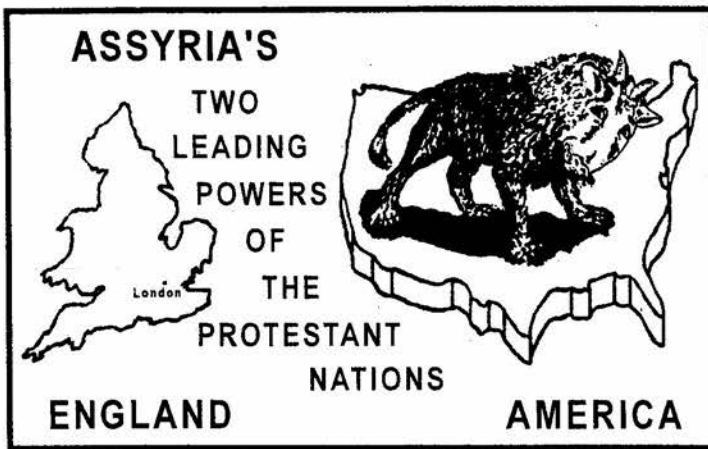
The territory of the Protestant Nations (antitypical **Assyria**) is "widespread" (1TG 23:8:2), and includes the "**English-speaking Christian world**," such as America, Australia, Canada (in part), England (GC 237), Liberia, New Zealand, Scotland (GC 249), and South Africa Republic (in part). Their "**protest** gave to the reformed church the name of **Protestant**; its principles are 'the very essence of **Protestantism**'" (GC 197:1). And there were other protesting nations (either all or part in protestant belief) which do not speak english, such as Germany (GC 197:1), Switzerland (GC 171), France (GC 211), Netherlands (GC 237), Scandinavia (GC 237), Belgium, and Denmark; also Finland, Iceland, Netherland, Norway, Sweden, and Switzerland. All of these **Protestant Nations (Assyria)** broke away from the papal church (Catholicism) as a result of the Protestant Reformation. This resulted in the pope being taken captive by Berthier, the French general in 1798 (1SR 215: GC 266).

Thus, the world of Papal Rome, symbolized by the non-descript beast's horn-head—a church-state confederacy (Dan 7:8,25) came to an end. In its place emerged the leopard-like beast (Rev 13:1-3), the fifth (2SR 86:2), which shows by its seven heads that the Dark-Age confederacy was broken. And since the "ten horns" (Rev 13:1), the Protestant Nations—Assyria, not the "heads" (Rev 13:1), have "**crowns**" (Rev 13:1) of authority to rule over the churches. The wounded head is Catholicism, and the other six heads are the Protestant Churches. And "God's {SDA} church must be in her midst" (1TG 23:5:1), because she "harbors the church of God" (1TG 23:8:2).

Of the nations that protested against the papacy and separated from Catholicism, it is primarily those nations that speak english who dominates and rules the masses of the people—symbolized as the body of the leopard-like beast. There are, however, other protesting nations who do not speak English. Together they make up the "**ten horns**"—the civil governments, whose churches proclaim the gospel and distributes the Bible to many nations. But it is primarily the **English-speaking Protestant Nations** who represents the reign of antitypical **Assyria**. And even among these nations, there are two leading powers.

TWO LEADING NATIONS OF ASSYRIA ENGLAND AND AMERICA

It is antitypical **Assyria** who "...is well instructed in the things of God....She harbors the church of God. ...She is...**English-speaking people**, in whose midst the Gospel and the Bible flow out to all nations" (1TG 23:8:2). The only **two** leading countries out of all the other Protestant Nations "that answers to all these descriptions" is, of course, **England** and **America**.



"And I beheld another beast {America} coming up out of the earth {not from the sea--the old world}; and he had two horns like a lamb {a constitutional govt}, and he spake as a **dragon** {a dictatorial govt}."—Revelation 13:11 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"The United States of **America** is the only government in the world that answers to all these specifications. It originated in a **new world** ('the earth'), not in the territories of the ancient world ('the sea'). It is the only government which is lamb-like—youthful and Christian, established upon the innocent principles of peace and liberty, having two non-royalist ruling parties (crownless horns), the Republican and the Democratic."—12 *Tract*, pg. 40:2. (boldings added).

"'And he had two horns like a lamb.' The lamb-like horns indicate youth, innocence, and gentleness, fitly representing the character of the **United States** {of **America**} when presented to the prophet as 'coming up' in 1798. Among the Christian exiles who first fled to America, and sought an asylum from royal oppression and priestly intolerance, were many who determined to establish a government upon the broad foundation of civil and religious liberty. Their views found place in the Declaration of Independence, which sets forth the great truth that 'all men are created equal,' and endowed with the inalienable right to 'life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.' And the Constitution guarantees to the people the right of self-government, providing that representatives elected by the popular vote shall enact and administer the laws. **Freedom of religious faith** was also granted, every man being permitted to {own Bibles and} worship God according to the dictates of his conscience. Republicanism and Protestantism became the fundamental principles of the nation. These principles are the secret of its power and prosperity."—*Great Controversy*, pg. 441:1 (bold emphasis, braces added).

The Hebrews were the "depositories of His truth" (BT 25), and they were to share it with others. Likewise Christians distribute the Bible to many nations through the United Bible Society in England, and the American Bible Society in America; also from Bible societies in Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Netherlands, Iceland, Norway, Scotland, and Germany. Today, "the Gospel and the Bible flow out to all nations" through the Protestant Churches in America, whom God has blessed to be the leading **Protestant Nation** of "the **English-speaking Christian world**." They are the

"depositories of His holy word" (GC 487), having a commission to carry the Gospel of "Jesus Christ, and Him crucified" (1Cor 2:2) to many nations.

The papacy, however, was founded upon the errors of Pagan Rome and Catholic traditions, which denied the Christians the right to study God's word. Whereas the very essence of the Protestant Reformation was founded on "the great Protestant principle—the Bible and the **Bible only**, as the rule of faith and duty" (GC 204,205). It was this principle of the scriptures, "the just shall live by faith" (Rom 1:17), that Luther used to inflict a "deadly wound" (Rev 13:3) to the church-state structure of Papal Rome. This power of God (GC 190) strengthened the Protestant Nations, and they "broke up" (14Tr 34:1) that church-state confederacy of pagan errors and Catholic traditions, which separated the church from the state.

It was after King James had translated the protestant Bible that the Lord caused England to be the leading power of the world. But when she restricted the people's right to religious freedom, He caused her to be "weakened" by World War II (2TG 42:27:1). And then the United States of America became the leading power of the **Protestant Nations (Assyria)**—the **ten horns** (Rev 13:1). It is also the center for the work of the Protestant Churches, who are the six heads on the leopard-like beast (Rev 13:1), from where the Gospel flows out to all the nations of the world.

It also distributes the authorized King James version of the Bible: "...the version which God, in His providence and in His foreknowledge of finishing His work by the **English-speaking world**, has given to His people to lead them into His Kingdom."—9 *Tract*, pg. 75:2 (bold emphasis, braces added).

"...we find the {SRod} message which is today being brought to Judah {God's church} comes not in Hebrew, but in the **English language**."—12 *Sym. Code*, No. 8, pg. 8:4 (boldings, braces added).

Thus, the people in antitypical **Assyria** today (the **Protestant Nations**) are the **larger** class of Christians, while England was and now America is the leading governmental power, symbolized as **Nineveh** (the capital city). The state today is separate from the church, while the Christian "church is in subjection to the governments" (12Tr 23:0). Also the state does not interfere with the work of the English-speaking Protestant Churches to distribute the Bible to all nations. But one day all these freedoms will be taken away.

SUMMARY OF MODERN ASSYRIA'S IDENTITY

1. The virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:14-16) to **Judah** predicted that a virgin would bear a son named "**Immanuel**."
2. The virgin-birth "sign" to **Judah** was **not fulfilled at any time** during the Old Testament Jewish era.
3. The virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:14) was fulfilled in the birth of **Jesus** in Bethlehem of **Judah** by the Holy Spirit through the virgin Mary (Mt 1:18-25), during the reign of Pagan Rome (non-descript beast—first stage).
4. The virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:14) was also fulfilled in the Christian disciples from **Judah** who were born of the Holy Spirit as "newborn babes" (1Pet 2:2), during the reign of Pagan Rome (non-descript beast—first stage).

5. The virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:15) was also fulfilled in the Christian disciples of Jesus from **Judah** who were to eat spiritual "butter and honey"—the Word of God.

6. The virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:16) was also fulfilled in the time of Papal Rome (non-descript beast--second stage), which was a **Dark-Age confederacy** of the church (Israel-Catholics) and state (Syria-pagans) that was against **Judah** Christians in their childhood stage.

7. The virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:16) was also fulfilled by the Christians of **Judah** in their childhood stage, who saw a confederacy of the **church** (Israel-Catholics) and the **state** (Syria-pagans) broken by antitypical **Assyria**—the **Protestant Nations**, causing the fall of Papal Rome (non-descript beast—second stage).

8. The virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:16) was also fulfilled by the leopard-like beast (**Assyria**) with **ten horns** (the **Protestant Nations**), after it broke the papal church-state confederacy (non-descript beast—second stage).

PURPOSE OF IDENTIFYING ANTITYPICAL ASSYRIA

The virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:14) is a prophecy that not only revealed Jesus Christ as the Jewish Messiah, but it also revealed the Christians who say "God is with us" (Isa 8:10; Mt 1:23). Today, it has been identified as the power of the modern-day antitypical Assyria—the **Protestant Nations**, with **America** as **Nineveh**, the capital city. As already noted, the ancient confederacy (Isa 7:1) of a church (apostate Israel) and a state (Syria), is a type of the church-state confederacy of the Dark Ages. And it is also a type of the church-state confederacy which the **Protestant Nations** (antitypical **Assyria**) are setting up today.

"Let me now remind you what Inspiration has to say of the association of nations and peoples according to current events. For light on the subject we turn to the eighth chapter of Isaiah's prophecy. Time will not permit me to re-study with you the whole chapter, and I do not think it is necessary, for we studied it not long ago. You remember that the chapter unveils a confederacy which ancient Israel, the ten-tribe kingdom (the church), made with ancient Syria, a sovereign power of the world, to war against Judah, a sister kingdom (church). **Inspiration** {from God's word} makes a **type** of that church and state confederacy, and by it definitely points out the trend which the nominal **churches** and the sovereign powers of the world {**state** governments} are to take now in the **antitype**. It {inspiration} makes known, moreover, that they will not prosper in it {Isa 8:9}."—2 *Timely Greetings*, No. 41, pg. 18:3. (bold emphasis, braces added).

WHAT THE READERS KNOW AND NEED TO LEARN

You readers have now learned from the virgin-birth "sign" (Isa 7:14) that today, antitypical **Assyria** is the **Protestant Nations**, with its capital city **Nineveh** being the United States of **America**, because it is the leading power of the world. But there is much more for you to learn about Nineveh and Assyria:

1. As ancient apostate Israel and heathenistic Syria set up a church-state confederacy (Isa 7:1), so today antitypical **Nineveh** and **Assyria** are working with the **New World Order** to set up another church-state confederacy (2TG 41:18:3), as the prophet Isaiah stated.

2. The words, "Associate {and gird} yourselves, O ye **people**" (Isa 8:9), refers to the Protestant Nations (Assyria) who are setting up their **New World Order** to join the church with the state.

3. This church-state confederacy being set up will appear to be a "good thing" (13SC 3:10:3), but it is a "**snare**" (Isa 8:14,15) and a "**trap**" (13SC 3:9:4) to many people; especially to those in God's Seventh-day adventist church.

4. If any of you readers should choose to be among the saints in God's church, and if you obey His command **not** to join their church-state confederacy (Isa 8:11-12), then you can say "God is with us" (Isa 8:10, and).

5. As God broke up the Israel (church) Syria (state) confederacy (Isa 7:8), so the church-state confederacy of Nineveh and Assyria today, now set up by the **New World Order**, "shall be broken in pieces" (Isa 8:9). Those who choose to join this church-state confederacy will be punished (Isa 8:15; 1TG 23:5:3) with them, for this reason:

JOIN NO CONFEDERACY TO DESTROY JUDAH

"Through this experience {Isa 7:1} we should gain the lesson as Christians that God will **not bless** the endeavors of any of His {**church**} people when they join heathen forces {of a **state** govt.} in order to gain strength in their effort to overcome their brethren in Christ whom for some reason they wish to have put out of their way. Such an alliance {a confederacy of the church with a state government} **cannot prosper**."—13 *Symbolic Code*, No. 3, pg. 4:1. (bold emphasis, braces added).

It has already been noted in this Bible study concerning the days of Ahaz, king of Judah in the Old Testament Jewish era, that apostate Israel (**church**) allied with Syria (**state**) to destroy Judah (the true Jews). But the Lord punished them by allowing ancient Assyria to break up their confederacy. Then in the Dark Ages during the New Testament Christian era, it was apostate Israel (Catholic **church** in Papal Rome) who federated with Syria (a pagan **state** govt) to destroy Judah (the true Christians). Again, God punished them by allowing the Protestant Nations (Assyria) to break up their church-state confederacy. And so it is today. Antitypical Israel, the SDA church (ST 164:1), is in deep apostasy (ST 217), even now while the Protestant Nations are setting up their church-state confederacy. And if the **SDA church joins it to destroy Judah** (true SDA Christians 13SC 3:4:1), then God will be against them, and punish them.

REQUESTING MORE INFORMATION

If you want to know more about this subject, or if you have any questions regarding this study or any other study subject from the Holy Bible or the Spirit of Prophecy, then please communicate with us at:

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