

The God of Forces Revealed

"He will show no regard for the gods of his fathers or for the one desired by women, nor will he regard any god, but will exalt himself above them all. Instead of them, he will honor a god of fortresses; a god unknown to his fathers he will honor with gold and silver, with precious stones and costly gifts. He will attack the mightiest fortresses with the help of a foreign god and will greatly honor those who acknowledge him. He will make them rulers over many people and will distribute the land at a price." (Daniel 11:37-39)

So Daniel 11 tells us the King of the North, the Papacy, will use this "foreign god" (verse 39) to attack the "mightiest fortresses." The Hebrew word translated as "fortresses" can mean a stronghold, a fortification, a fortress, a military force or a military defense, as in "the defense industry." So it appears that the Papacy will make an alliance with a modern world power that has a strong national defense and is a relatively new world power ("whom his fathers knew not"). It is a foreign god, not located near Rome.



What world power could this be? One way to answer that is to ask, "Who has the power to take control of the Middle East today?" How many superpowers are there? Only one. The Bible is its own best interpreter. Revelation 13:11-17 tells us about this "two horned" power that causes the whole world to worship the Beast (understood as the Papacy) through deception, force and economic coercion.

"Adventist commentators have seen in this second beast a symbol of the United States of America."[\[1\]](#)

Then I saw another beast, coming out of the earth. He had two horns like a lamb, but he spoke like a dragon. (Revelation 13:11)." Arising out of the "earth" as opposed to the "sea" represents a political power which arises out of "sparsely settled region"[\[2\]](#) ;whereas the "sea" (Revelation 13:1) represents many "peoples, multitudes and languages."(Revelation 17:15) The first Beast in Revelation 13, arises out of the more heavily populated Old World (Rome). The second Beast arises out of the less populated New World of the America's. The "two horns" of this lamblike power have been interpreted as the American system of government built upon to important principles: Civil and Religious liberty. [\[3\]](#) The United States rebelled against the King of England and against the Pope.

But this prophecy predicts the USA will someday "speak like a dragon." The dragon represents primarily Satan (see Revelation 12:9). Revelation 13:2 says, "...The dragon gave the Beast his power and his throne and great authority." Historically this text was fulfilled when the Roman Empire, who is represented as that power which tried to "devour her (Christ) child the moment it was born (Revelation 12:4)." It was the Roman ruler, Herod, who tried to have the baby Jesus killed (Matthew 2:16).

The "dragon" representing the ancient Roman Empire which tried to destroy the man-child, eventually crucified him and the later persecuted Christ's followers. "The power succeeding the Roman Empire, which received from the dragon 'his power, and his seat, and great authority,' is clearly papal Rome. Out of the ruins of political Rome arose a great moral Empire in the 'giant form' of the Roman Church." [\[4\]](#)

"For the second beast (the USA) to exercise all the authority of the first beast, it will have to enter the field of religion, and seek to dominate religious worship." [\[5\]](#) The US government wields such power today it does not have to "dominate" religion today. ***It merely has to choose a side in a religious dispute or cause.*** Has the US government chosen sides on a religious dispute, focused primarily in Daniel's land of Israel? I'm afraid it has.

I believe that both Daniel and Revelation portray this "Northern Alliance" between Washington and Rome that will work together to bring the whole world under their power. **Time Magazine**, in 1992, declared a "**Holy Alliance**" between President **Ronald Reagan and Pope John Paul**. They collaborated secretly together to bring down the Communist countries of Eastern Europe [\[6\]](#) As a result of this alliance, the USSR fell apart and the USA emerged as the only remaining Superpower.

Daniel predicts that this Northern Alliance (I prefer this phrase to Holy Alliance) will also invade the "Beautiful Land" of Palestine but will be opposed by the King of the South (Daniel 11:40,41). A few days after the September 11th disaster, President

George W. Bush speaking spontaneously, without the aid of advisers or speechwriters, he put a word on the new American purpose. "This *crusade*," he said, "this war on terrorism."

[1] VII Seventh-day Adventist Bible Commentary, page 820

[2] Ibid, page 820

[3] Ibid, page 820

[4] Ibid, page 817

[5] Ibid, page 820

[6] *Time Magazine*, "The Holy Alliance," 2/24/1992, p. 28-35

<http://content.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,974931,00.html>

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