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SILVER STAR BIBLE SCHOOL - 1987

THE PROPHECY OF DANIEL

Speaker: Bro. Colin Hollamby

Study #6: He Shall Enter into the Glorious Land

Reading: Daniel 11:35-45

Brother chairman, and our dear brethren and sisters in the Lord Jesus Christ.

We are really faced with a mammoth task this morning, to try to draw together all the wonderful threads that we have been able to see, that the prophet Daniel has given to us, in his outline of the history of the kingdom of men. This morning, b&s, we want to face the crisis of that image, in the way in which it will build itself up and in the way in which it will be smitten by the Stone power, cut out of the mountains without hands.

We must, first of all, however turn back to the 8th chapter of Daniel's prophecy, because to go into Daniel chapter 11, we will be floundering, unless we make the divine connections that have been made for us in the outline of Daniel's 8th chapter. Up to verse 12 of Daniel 8, Daniel has been given a vision; a vision which is subsequently interpreted starting at verse 20 and running through to the end of verse 25. We must be very careful in our analysis of what Daniel says, or rather what the angel says, as being the interpretation of the vision of the ram and the he goat. We know that the ram was completely and utterly stamped upon by the he goat, that the he goat waxed exceeding great; that when he was great, the notable horn from between his two eyes was broken, and 4 notable horns came up in place of that one notable horn from between the goat's two eyes. We know that subsequently out of one of those notable horns, another little horn grew. Now the interpretation that Daniel gives, or rather, the angel gives to Daniel, is as we have mentioned found in verses 20 to 25.

We notice some of the salient features of that interpretation. The **ram** is the power of Medo-Persia, answering to the second metal and to the bear of Daniel 7. The **rough goat**, verse 21, is the king of Grecia answering to the belly and thighs of brass and also to the leopard with 4 heads and 4 wings. The **great king** was broken in verse 22 and 4 kingdoms stood up for that which had been broken, but not in the power of the first king. Verse 23 then says, in the latter time of their kingdom when the transgressors have come to the full, a king of fierce countenance and understanding dark sentences shall stand up. Now following through the vision, b&s, the little horn of the goat which grew out of one of the notable 4 horns of Alexander's divided empire, must be the king of fierce countenance, and the king of fierce countenance is quite clearly outlined for us in the 28th chapter of Deuteronomy, where Moses on the borders of the Promised Land

and just before his death, gives to the children of Israel, an outline of their experiences in subsequent history.

As we trace through that prophecy and beginning at verse 48, we come to the time when Moses is prophesying that 'thou shalt serve thine enemies which Yahweh shall send against thee. In hunger and in thirst and in nakedness and in want of all things and He shall put a yoke of iron upon thy neck until He hath destroyed thee. Yahweh shall bring a nation against thee from afar, from the end of the earth, as swift as the eagle flieth, a nation whose tongue thou shalt not understand, a nation of fierce countenance; which shall not regard the person of the old, nor show favour to the young'. Now b&s, there are only 3 occasions in the Old Testament scriptures where 'a king of fierce countenance' is talked about. It's here in Deuteronomy 28, it's in Daniel 8, and it's in a very significant prophecy in Isaiah 19.

Isaiah 19 is a prophecy of the latter days, it concerns what will happen in the nation of Egypt (we're not going to have time to look at Isaiah 19 this morning) but suffice it to say, that the king of fierce countenance in Isaiah 19 is the modern day counterpart of the king of fierce countenance who is here described in Deuteronomy 28. There's no doubt about the identification of this power, it is the pagan Roman power under which the Jewish people fell, it was an iron power; God was going to bring them under a yoke of iron. He was going to bring them under a power whose heraldic symbol would be 'a flying eagle', and the armies of Rome marched under the banner of a flying eagle, so the points of identification are quite indisputable. Then, says God, through Moses the prophet, that the iron yoke will be upon their neck until they have been destroyed, an obvious reference to the complete scattering of Israel in the days of AD70, after Rome had indeed brought them to destruction.

So we've got a very clear clue as to the identity of this king of fierce countenance. He is the little horn of the goat power. Then we notice in verse 24 of Daniel 8, 'that his power shall be mighty, but not by his own power; and he shall destroy wonderfully and shall prosper and practice, he shall destroy the mighty and the holy people. Through his policy he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace he shall destroy many; he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand'. Obviously, because the angel is giving us an interpretation and not symbolic language, the Prince of princes has got to be Jesus Christ, therefore, this little horn of the goat has continued since its inception as the king of fierce countenance who destroyed the people of Israel; it will continue, says the angel, until it meets its fate at the hands of the Prince of princes, against whom it will stand up and magnify itself. So it's rather obvious that the little horn of the goat power is a continuous power from its inception until its destruction by Christ. It continues in unbroken life, it is the pagan Roman power.

But it's not simply the pagan Roman power, b&s, because through Daniel the prophet, God reveals to us the history of the kingdom of men under its various phases, so that the establishment of the capital of the pagan Roman power in Constantinople in about

the year 330 AD signified the central base of the little horn of the goat power. It is known in the end of Daniel 9 as the 'abomination that makes desolate', and it's the power that subsequently in all of history rules the nation whose capital is Constantinople; and indeed, there has been a succession of powers who have occupied Constantinople, who have been abominations that have made desolate the Holy Land. In succession, they have been the Romano-Greek power, because the Roman pagan power developed out of a Grecian area of Alexander's kingdom. Subsequently, the Persians have trodden down that Land; then the Saracens, then the Ottoman. But we notice that Daniel 8 says that this power will be destroyed by the Prince of princes; we are looking therefore, b&s, for another power to take over the city of Constantinople in the very near future, because we will be able to show that although the Constantinopolitan power of Turkey is still in charge there, it is soon going to be overtaken by another power.

If we can have the slide please, brother Wayne. We notice again what brother Thomas said about that little horn power, we're going to analyse quite closely what the angel says to Daniel in verse 25 of chapter 8, in a moment. But he says there, 'This little horn power or king of fierce countenance, is in the 36th verse of the 11th chapter, styled, 'the king who doth according to his will'. This federal despot or potentate must be studied in his secular and ecclesiastical characters; his secular with a hint or two of his spiritual character is given in the 8th chapter, while his ecclesiastical is exhibited more fully in the 11th, from the 36th to the 39th verses inclusive. His policy was to be of a remarkable description, for through his policy he shall cause craft to prosper by his power'. Hence, b&s, this is a very important part of this statement, 'hence his doings with regard to another and that person's words and deeds, are all affirmed of this wilful king. For it is by his power as well as through his policy, that this person is enabled to do'.

Now coming to verse 25 of Daniel 8, and thinking about what brother Thomas has said there, it's quite clearly outlined as to the interpretation that the angel gave to Daniel. Through the little horn of the goat's policy, verse 25, 'he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand, He shall magnify himself in his heart, by peace he shall destroy many; he'll stand up against the Prince of princes and be destroyed without hand'. Verse 25 incorporates about 1700 years of history; it's a very brief account of the life of the little horn of the goat from the time in which he caused his policies to make craft prosper in his hand. Now what is the '**craft**' (4820) here referred to? well, it's used in Jeremiah 9, this word for 'craft'; it's used here in a very interesting connection; in verse 3 of Jeremiah 9, Jeremiah prophesying to the people of Israel, and he says, 'They bend their tongues like their bow for lies; but they are not valiant for the truth upon the earth: for they proceed from evil to evil, and they know not Me, saith Yahweh. Take ye heed everyone of his neighbour and trust ye not in any brother; for every brother will utterly supplant, and every neighbour will walk with slanders. And they will deceive everyone his neighbour, and will not speak the truth. They have taught their tongue to speak lies and wearied themselves to commit iniquity; thine habitation is in the midst of deceit; through deceit they refuse to know Me, saith Yahweh'. What's being spoken about? the

word **deceit** in verse 6 is the same word as 'craft' in Daniel 8 verse 25.

What is the deceit here being practised? it is religious deceit, it is craft, or fraud or corruption or perversion of the truth. So here we have a picture in verse 25, of the little horn of the goat power causing 'deceit', that is, in religious practices to prosper in his hand. He has got a policy, he wants to further that policy, he's interested in magnifying himself, and the best way he can see of doing that, is in certain respects, by creating a policy that will cause craft to prosper in his hand, so he's got control over it, he's not the author of it, he's used a policy which in his hand will cause him, to be magnified in his own heart. He is therefore, a power as brother Thomas said, 'whose doings with regard to another' because it is by his power and through his policy that this person, that is, the one with craft is able to do. There are remarkable ways, b&s, in which that has been fulfilled in the outworking of the eastern Roman empire, right from the days of Justinian in 533 AD. We won't have time to produce evidence of that this morning, but in Gibbons 'Decline and fall of the Roman Empire' he makes remarkable statements about the way in which Justinian exalted the Roman pontiff, and he declared him to be the 'Bishop' over all the churches of his realm, and that included all the Greek Orthodox churches. Justinian the emperor in the east, took away from the Greek Orthodox church power, all their churches, and he embellished all the pagan temples with idols and with artefacts from Roman Catholic superstition; and so he imbedded very firmly in his empire, a policy which would cause the 'craft' of the Roman Catholic power to prosper in his hand. He's got control of it, and under him is the Roman Bishop who enjoys a very great deal of illustrious life in the kingdom of the pagan Roman power, because the little horn of the goat gave him that power.

Now what we are looking at, b&s, in verse 25, is a resurrection of those same ideas. They're not clearly outlined for us, in Daniel 8, but as brother Thomas rightly points out, in Daniel 11 they are expanded more fully for us. In Daniel 11 beginning at verse 36, which introduces us to the time after the Maccabean era has concluded in verses 34 and 35 (we haven't got time to develop those things either, this morning) but this king in verse 36, is the little horn of the goat. Daniel 11 is all about the interaction about a person called the king of the north and another called the king of the south. They are the two thighs of the Grecian part of the image of Nebuchadnezzar's dream, and although there were 4 heads that were raised upon the territory of Alexander after his death, only 2 of those kingdoms feature prominently in the plan and purpose of God. They are designated in Daniel 11 as the **king of the north and the king of the south**, and when we come to the end of verse 32, we are looking at the exploits of the king of the north who was Antiochus Epiphanes at that time. Then the prophecy goes on to describe the king who shall do according to his will. He is a willful king, he is a dictator, he's a federal potentate, he's the king of fierce countenance who will do according to his will, understanding dark sentences, and verses 36 to 39, go on to explain in far more detail, the way in which this king of fierce countenance would interact with a religious system, a false religious system. A system which is quite clearly described in verse 37 as not regarding the god of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor shall he regard any god for he shall magnify himself above all. Here's an intimate relationship

between the little horn of the goat power of the eastern leg of the Roman power, and the religious section of the Roman power in the west. It's a system which does not regard the desire of women, because it demands that its hierarchy be celibate and unlike their predecessors in the pagan religion, they who did desire wives and did marry wives, this particular system will not regard the desire of women, and it will not pay any heed to the gods which its predecessor had given its idolatrous worship towards.

Now in verse 38 it goes on to say, (this is what Justinian did - it's stating that Justinian would honour this particular God of forces), verse 38, 'in his estate (that is, the little horn of the goat power, the king who shall do according to his will) 'he shall honour the God of forces, and a god whom his fathers knew not shall he honour with gold, silver and precious stones and pleasant things. Gibbon records that, 'there was nothing spared in all the realm of Justinian to embellish the pagan temples with the idols and with the wealth of Roman Catholicism'. Verse 38, 'Thus shall he do in the most strongholds with a strange god, whom he shall acknowledge and increase with glory, and he shall cause them to rule over them many, and he shall divide the land for gain'. That's all talking about the little horn of the goat power with its interrelationships with the Roman Catholic power.

Then it says in verse 40, 'At the time of the end, shall the king of the south **push at him**'. The 'him' in verse 40 is still the little horn of the goat power; we are now seeing the last phase of his existence in the time of the end. Now b&s, we must of necessity go back into Daniel 2 for a moment. So if we can please put that slide on, brother Mike, because we have ascertained that Daniel has been made aware of the way in which the kingdom of men would proceed down through the period of time of the Gentiles under different powers, we positively know that Daniel has had revealed to him, and subsequently to Nebuchadnezzar, that Daniel is dealing with **powers upon territories**. He's not dealing with a consistent thread of one nation, he's dealing with the kingdom of men in its various phases. We saw first of all, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome; and they're roughly on those little maps, are the territories that were occupied both by each of those powers. Now if that image is to stand up in the later days, as Daniel told king Nebuchadnezzar it would, then it stands to reason, that the later day manifestation of that image, will incorporate under its power, all the territories of Babylon, Medo-Persian, Greece and Rome. When we then analyse that kind of area that is incorporated in those 4 small sections of the kingdom of men, this is really what we have! We have a power designated that covers all the area from here? right over to the river Indus. It is the boundary between India and Pakistan, so in the latter days, b&s, we can confidently expect that there will arise a power who will be designated as the clay-iron of the feet, that will preside over all that area of land.

What do we find then further? Verse 40 of Daniel 11, we're introduced to the time of the end, the same idea as 'the latter days', not the same words, b&s, but the same idea. The reason why Daniel introduces to us the phrase 'the time of the end' is because it's a phrase that he's been using earlier in Daniel 11 verse 35, 'even to the time of the end'; there are certain individuals who are purged and made white, so the continuing of the Word of God in making a people prepared for the kingdom of God to come, will

continue to the time of the end. Now, at the time of the end, says Daniel, the king of the south shall push at the little horn of the goat, the power that is in occupation of the city of Constantinople or Istanbul as it now is. How do we arrive at an understanding as to what this is talking about?

Well, here is where Revelation 16 enters into the record. Daniel's book was sealed up till the time of the end, we're living in the time of the end, we know that, b&s, we're confidently expecting the kingdom of God to appear very, very soon. The kingdom of God appears, or rather, the King of the kingdom of God appears, right at the end of the period of the 6th Vial of Revelation 16. The beginning of that 6th vial, verse 12, concerns the pouring out of the judgments of this angel, upon the great river, Euphrates upon which Babylon sat. The water thereof was dried up that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. Here's a wonderful revelation, b&s, the river Euphrates was dried up so that Darius the Mede might enter into the city of Babylon. When the waters receded from the river that ran through the city, there really would have been a crisis on at that time. Yes, they were all in their drunken revelry that's for sure, but something else is very likely to have happened, because as soon as you take water away from certain aquatic creatures they start to croak. So have a look at what verse 13 says, 'I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet'. Here is really, b&s, a repetition of the destruction of Babylon of old, and the way that is to be accomplished is by the drying up of the Euphratean power and in modern times the Euphratean power is none other than the Turkish power. It is amazing to see the series of events that occurred in the country and in the empire of the Ottomans in the early part to the middle part of the last century. I'll just read out a list of what happened to that power:

-We must realize that through the 1500's, 16 and 1700's there really was no power on the earth that could match the Ottoman's in their military strength. They were at the zenith of their power, they had peace on all their borders in the early 1800's, they seemed to have not an enemy in all the world that could challenge them; then in 1820, the London Register says this; - 'that the Ottoman empire had reached it meridian strength'.

-In 1820 to 1822, there was insurrection in Greece and a proclamation of independence.

-A 100,000 people died of cholera

-Thousands were swallowed up in Turkey by earthquake.

-In 1826 the crack army of the Turks that were known as the Jannissaries, were butchered in Constantinople by their enemies;

-In 1827 the Turkish fleet was annihilated by an allied army.

-In 1828 self government was granted to 3 provinces;

-In 1830 Algiers was surrendered;

-In 1831 we have a register in the London Annual Register which says that during the previous 20 years, from 1811, Constantinople had lost half their population, between 300,000 and 400,000 died by unnatural death, as the drying up of the Euphratean power to make way for the kings of the east.

-In 1832, Egyptian independence was acknowledged.

-In 1840 to 1847, there was a terrible tale of plagues and of outbreaks and of conflagrations in the empire.

-In 1849, Christians were admitted to office in a Muslim country.

-In 1853, a quarrel with Russia over the holy places, cost Turkey 200 million pounds sterling;

-In 1860 to 1870, thousands of fires and wholesale destruction of buildings through Constantinople.

-In 1876, insurrection all over the empire and independence was granted to Roumania, Serbia, Bulgaria, Bosnia, Herzegovina, Montenegro, Kars, Batum, Ardahan, Cyprus to Britain, Dobruja to Montenegro, Tunis to France, Thessaly to Crete and to Greece, and Egypt to Britain in 1882.

We can see the rapid evaporation of that power, so that 'the way of the kings of the east', as it says in verse 12 of Revelation 16, 'might be prepared'.

But that was capped off in 1914, by the outbreak of the great European war. Turkey joined Germany against Britain and her allies resulting in the fall of Put, then of Bagdad, then of Jerusalem and of Jericho as we well know. The conquest of Syria and the assumption by Great Britain as the protectorate of the Holy Land.

Now in that list of the evaporative influences in the Turkish empire, 1882 was a significant year, because in that year, Britain took over the power of Egypt. Always in Daniel 11, the power in occupation of Egypt is the king of the south. So now when we come back to Daniel 11, and we read in verse 40, that at the time of the end, shall the king of the south, push at the little horn of the goat, we have here a prophecy of the way in which General Allenby pushed at the Ottoman-Turkish power, the little horn of the goat who had made the Holy Land abominable and desolate (and it had been desolate) and the Turks had been known as the 'desolating Turk', they had always been known in the late 1800's as 'the sick man of Europe', no wonder, because of all the sicknesses and the plagues and the conflagrations that went on in that empire, to reduce them right

back to their own borders practically in 1917, as General Allenby pushed against the little horn of the goat power and took over the Holy Land. There is the way in which Daniel 11 and at verse 40 and the first part of that verse had been fulfilled in modern times. That the **king of the south, Britain**, pushed at the little horn of the goat, and the little horn of the goat, b&s, was always known in the interrelationships of the king of the north and the king of the south, from 300 BC down to 150 BC., he was always known as the king of the north.

Then we notice in verse 40, that 'the king of the north shall come against him **like a whirlwind**', not just a little push, he's going to come against him like the whirlwind, that signifies a completely different way of approaching the little horn of the goat power in occupation of Istanbul or Constantinople as it was. It signifies that the king of the north, the power in occupation of the northern areas from Israel, will not just push against the little horn of the goat, 'it will come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the countries and shall overflow and pass over'. This is a clear illustration of the way in which the king of the north is yet to overtake the country of Turkey. But as soon as that power overtakes the country of Turkey, it's axiomatic, b&s, that she will then become the latter day manifestation of the little horn of the goat, 'who will magnify himself in his heart, that will cause craft to prosper in his hand, that will stand up against the Prince of princes and will be destroyed without hand'. It's the exact picture of the image standing up upon its feet ready and waiting to be smitten by the Stone power cut out of the mountains without hands.

Now, b&s, we must turn for a moment, to the 38th chapter of Ezekiel's prophecy. In the 38th chapter, a chapter which is extremely well known to us all, (we're not going into it in any depth at all) we want to put a picture of what the prophet Ezekiel presents to our attention under the inspiration of God. We've noticed on the map before us that there is a depiction of the 'image empire' (and yes we do have Russia noted there, and we do have Europe noted there, and we do have Africa noted there). Russia was never included, that is, all the area in the north was never included in any of the territories of Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece or Rome. But let us have a look at what the prophecy in Ezekiel 38 calls for! It says in verse 1, 'The word of Yahweh came unto me, saying, Son of man, set thy face against Gog, the land of Magog, the chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and prophesy against him, and say'. To whom does the prophet say these words? we're going to reserve our judgment upon that! We're going to look now at verse 8 of this same chapter, the same power described as Gog is being addressed, 'After many days thou shalt be visited: **in the latter years**, exactly what Daniel said to Nebuchadnezzar was the substance of the revelation of that dream that Nebuchadnezzar was shown what would happen in the latter days. Here we now have a picture of the latter days, and in the latter days, Gog is going to be visited. 'Gog is said to be a power that will come into the Land that is brought back from the sword, and is gathered out of many peoples against the mountains of Israel which have always been waste, but is brought forth out of the nations and they shall dwell safely all of them'. There's a picture of the restoration of Israel to its own land! The way in which God

brought back from the sword His people who have been scattered by the 'little horn of the goat power' in AD.70, but the power that's addressed in verse 8 is not Israel, it is the power of Gog! Gog is told that it will come into the Land that is brought back from the sword.

Verse 9, 'Thou shalt ascend and come like a storm, thou shalt be like a cloud to cover the land, thou, and all thy bands and many people with thee'. Verse 16 says again addressing Gog, 'Thou shalt come up against My people of Israel, as a cloud to cover the land: it shall be in the latter days, and I will bring thee against My land, so that the heathen may know when I shall be sanctified in thee, O Gog, before their eyes'. Now b&s, God has an objective in all this, He wants to be sanctified in the eyes of the nations. Is He going to pick on the weakest nation to show Himself a powerful God, a destroying El, a mighty God? No, He's going to pick on the very strongest because it would be pointless in picking on even the next strongest, because all the other people would say, 'but you haven't confronted the best!' The objective of God in all of this is 'that He might be sanctified in the eyes of many nations', verse 23, 'thus will I magnify Myself and sanctify Myself, and I will be known in the eyes of many nations, and they shall know that I am Yahweh'. God's objectives, b&s, will be met!

So what's He going to do? He is going to bring a power who is designated as **Gog** against His people of Israel, He's going to do it in the latter days. Now who is this power? We're not going to try and identify it from verse 2, but we're able to see in verse 4 of Ezekiel 38, that God says, '**I will turn thee back, O Gog**, and put hooks into thy jaws and I will bring thee forth and all thy army, horses and horsemen, all of them clothed with all sorts of armour, even a great company with bucklers and shields, all of them handling swords; Persia, Ethiopia and Libya with them; all of them with shield and helmet; Gomer, and all his bands; the house of Togarmah of the north quarters, and all his bands; and many people with thee'. Now here is a clear designation as to the power of this power, Gog. It is a power that amalgamates together all the powers that we see on that map. It is a power that is distinctly told as having under its authority countries like Persia, Ethiopia and Libya. So we are spread abroad not only in Europe, not only in the northern parts of Europe, through Magog and Gomer, but we've gone right over into the eastern part of the ancient boundaries of the kingdom of men, to Persia, down south to Ethiopia, and across to the west in Libya. A very real approximation, b&s, of the whole amount of those 4 areas that we saw designated under Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome. So who is this power, Gog? It is obviously the power that has the power to amalgamate together all those things. But how is he going to do it? Well, Daniel 11 tells us how he's going to do it! Daniel chapter 8 began to tell us how he's going to do it, and Daniel 11 continues to tell us how he will do it.

Daniel 11 verse 36, 'This king shall do according to his will; and he shall exalt himself, and magnify himself above every god, and shall speak marvellous things against the God of gods, and shall prosper till the indignation be accomplished: for that that is determined shall be done. Neither shall he regard the God of his fathers, nor the desire of women, nor regard any god; for he shall magnify himself above all'. Who is this

power? Here we have an exploded view of his policies and of his craft that Daniel 8 introduced us into, a policy that would cause craft to prosper in his hand. It says also in Daniel 8 if we return there for a moment, it identifies 'him' or 'himself' as a power, verse 24, 'that would not be by his own power, but he would destroy wonderfully, he would prosper and practice and destroy the mighty and the holy people'. He's a power that is clearly identified as a power that destroys by flatteries. He's a power that's identified in Daniel 11, as coming in to obtain peaceably, and today, b&s, the power in charge of Russia, Mr. Gorbachev is doing precisely that! he's even offering to Mr. Reagan of the United States of America, that he is prepared to get rid of all his nuclear weapons, and I believe he's genuine, because he's got nothing to lose, because the power of that power in conventional weaponry is just so far in advance of the United States of America and her allies, that he has nothing whatsoever to lose and he's going to induce even the very elect! and I know he is, b&s, he is seducing even the very elect into believing that he is not 'the king of fierce countenance'. He is seducing us into believing that he is not the little horn of the goat power, who shall soon be in command of Constantinople, by the means that Daniel 11 and verse 40 says.

Verse 41 goes on to say, 'He shall enter also into the glorious land, and many countries shall be overthrown but these shall escape out of his hand, Edom, Moab, and the chief of the children of Ammon. He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries and the land of Egypt shall not escape. He shall have power over the treasures of gold, and of silver and over all the precious things of Egypt; and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps. But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him; wherefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many. He shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.' We'd like to put on the screen, b&s, two quotations from the writings of brother Thomas, they are really striking in their content. Written in 1848, this is what he says:

'It is worthy of remark here, with reference to the image at the crisis of its fate, that the power which shall possess Persia in the latter days, will be the **bear**, and consequently answer to the breast of silver. This power is the Russian, whose symbol is a bear; this is so well known that the phrase 'the Russian bear' is as familiar as household words. Russia which already comprehends some of the Persian territory in its bounds, is destined to conquer Persia and to possess it from India to Ethiopia. This is not conjecture, but an absolute certainty, for God has declared by Ezekiel that Persia in the latter days, shall be a constituent of the dominion of Gog.'

The next one too please, brother Wayne, where brother Thomas again in Elpis Israel says:

'That the future movements of Russia are notable signs of the times, because they are predicted in the scriptures of truth. The Russian autocracy in its plenitude and on the verge of dissolution is the image of Nebuchadnezzar standing upon the mountains of Israel, ready to be smitten by the Stone. When Russia makes its grand move for the

building up of its image empire, then let the reader know that the end of all things as at present constituted, is at hand.'

We are looking at it today, b&s, we are very clearly looking at the way in which Russia is building up its image empire, and the way in which the Russian clay of the image is amalgamating with the other powers on the stage of the kingdom of men, so that they might for a purpose, loosely amalgamate together as the king of fierce countenance causing priest craft to prosper in his hand. By his policy he shall indeed cause craft to prosper in his hand'.

Now b&s, we will hardly have time to look at any more prophecies, but we would like to enlist a few things that are happening in our earth today, to confirm what we are saying and what brother Thomas said over 130 years ago. Here was a statement that was made in the Newsweek Magazine in 1981, and it says, 'The Pope is enthralled by a compelling mission. He believes he has a calling from God to unite Europe. During his first return to Poland, the first ever visit by a Roman Catholic pontiff, he declared that the Holy Spirit intended that this Polish Pope, this Slav Pope should at this precise moment, manifest the spiritual unity of eastern Europe. Beyond this John Paul seems to believe that Poland's salvation will also bring salvation to the west'. And again in that same article, in November 1981, it says, 'That the Pope is come to bear witness to his own conviction, that the problem that assails us is really to save Europe and the world from the final catastrophe. There are 36 million Poles and 90% of them would join the Pope's divisions; John Paul II in political terms is the most powerful Pope of modern times, and no one appreciates this more than the Russians'.

Just a few remarks, b&s, about this very illustrious Pope that's on the throne of St. Peter today (the throne of St. Peter so called). He is the leader of 825 million Roman Catholics. Let us just briefly run through the countries that he has visited since his ascent to that position in 1978: Mexico, Poland, Ireland, USA and the United Nations Organization, he met the patriarch of the eastern Orthodox Turkish Church in Istanbul in December 1979, in 1980 he went to Ghana, France, Brazil, Philippines and Japan. In 1981 there was an attempt made on his life, so he had a period of convalescence for 7 months. In 1982 he visited Nigeria, Portugal, and he prayed at the shrine of Mary Fatima for his survival of the assassination attempt. Still in 1982 he visited Britain meeting with the queen, (the first ever of a ruling pontiff). In 1983 he went to Poland. In 1984 he went to the Far East; he met with president Reagan in Alaska at the beginning of the Pope's visit to South Korea, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands and Thailand. In 1984 he also had a 6 day visit to Switzerland, his 22nd trip since 1978. In 1984 he went to Canada, the longest of his stays in any country since 1978. In 1985 he had a 12 day tour through 6 black African countries, plus a stop-over in Islamic Morocco where he met with king Hussein. In 1986 he went to India and then in 1986 also he went to New Zealand.

In 1987 he planned a trip to the USA and possibly also to Cuba; and In 1988 there is already on the books a planned visit to Moscow.

He is a remarkable man. B&S, if we had time to develop these matters, he's prophesied in Revelation 17; he's prophesied there as the figure head that will resurrect the 8th imperial head of the 4th beast of Daniel's prophecy. The 4th beast of Daniel's prophecy is wholly Roman, and it's going to meet its fate together with the clay of Communism. The clay of Communism, b&s, is that **which sticks together** the divided iron kingdoms of Europe today. It is really the power of Russia that causes the Pope's power to prosper in his hand.

There is another remarkable thing that we have, b&s, that on May 7th this year, I was down in Houston, and a brother gave me a copy of the front page of the Houston Chronicle. On that front page together with a lot of newspapers right throughout North America, and I expect through the world, there was a call by the present Pope John Paul for a **united Europe** which stretches all across the Soviet block. That's what he wants to see! He wants to see united with the Roman Catholic church, the Greek Orthodox Church, he's already made overtures to the head of that church, and what does it say in Daniel 8? that he, the little horn of the goat will cause his policy to prosper by craft! Without the military backing of the Soviet power, the Pope couldn't do anything like what he's doing in the earth today. Just a few other things that are happening around our world today, b&s. We've got a few cuttings here, we haven't got them all on overheads but that's what the Pope is doing today!

-We've got Iran silkworm threat in the go! They're making some sort of an alliance with China so that they might buy their military goods.

-The Gulf War - Iraq is under pressure!

-We've got a picture of Iran building up its own arms industry.

-We've got here a newspaper heading about the way the Pope and Mr. Waldheim got together under the heading - The Pope and the Piranha.

-We've got another here about the huge weapons race with Israel that is driving Syria deeper into debt to the Soviet Union.

- We've got a picture here of what is going on in Greece today which is trouble on Nato's southern flank.

-We've got the fact that the Soviet's are tightening their grip on Iran.

-And I've only been told very, very recently that only a week or so ago, Iran and the Soviet Union signed an economic pact.

-Here is something however, b&s, of intense interest to us - it concerns also what Russia is doing, because in 1985 they had a practice to invade Turkey, they ran a practice mission only about 100 kilometres north of the Turkish border (which is

common with their own) as to how they would go about invading Turkey. We are told in Daniel 11 verse 40, that the king of the north will come against him like a whirlwind. There they are practising it out in broad daylight.

-There's another article here that talks about why Afghanistan matters - why does Afghanistan matter? Russia is almost certainly in complete control in Afghanistan today, she is flexing her muscles for the building up of her image empire, and she will stretch it, b&s, right to the river Indus. Pakistan also is now involved in skirmishes with Russian jets as they are coming over to strike the border villages of the refugees of the country of Afghanistan.

-One of the most interesting things however, is a cutting out of the Hamilton Spectator on May 30th, of this year. It says there, 'There now exists the potential for the European pillar of NATO to evolve into a distinct independent military power.

Now b&s, involved in the economic community of Europe today is about 12 nations. Just recently, Ireland was the last power involved to give its voice in assent to the centrality of the power of the European community, and that means that the European community now will have a power that's somewhere in Europe at which all the member nations will take part in voting about any issue that is going to become binding, no regrets, it's going to become binding in all the member nations. What do we see? What are we seeing being brought to bear before our eyes, b&s? We are seeing the very distinct amalgamation of all those territories that Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece and Rome presided over in past days. We are seeing the formation of the feet and toes of the image and all we have to do is wait for the time of its crisis when it stands up upon the feet to be smitten by the man of the One, that certain man of Daniel 10 who in Revelation 10 puts His right foot upon the sea, and His left foot upon the earth and He comes to confront an almighty colossus which He will smite upon the feet and cause it to tumble down in utter wreck, and consequently to grind it to powder and to cause it to blow away like the chaff of the summer threshing floors. The kingdom of God will eclipse the power of the kingdom of men, the greatest amalgamation of powers will stand up upon that ancient territory to be met by another colossus - not just a colossus, it will be an Almighty colossus! because it will be invested with the powers of heaven. The powers of heaven, b&s, will indeed cause Yahweh to arise at last to shake terribly the earth.

Ezekiel 38 describes some of the carnage and the wreckage that will take place throughout the length and breadth of the earth, as Yahweh does, indeed, arise to shake terribly the earth, so that He might make His existence and power known in all the earth, and may it be, b&s, that in that day we will be like Daniel, who shall stand in his lot at the end of the day. That we will be wiser than our peers in the world around us, that we will become wiser than all our teachers, that every day upon our lips might be the plea, 'how long until the end of these wonders? how long will it be, O God, until the indignation is at an end? when will it be that Israel will at last be delivered from the mouth of the lion and the paw of the bear? When will these things come to pass, b&s,?

We had a lovely night the other night by brother Stephen which showed us the way in which Israel has developed, and that God in His great wisdom and that the very backbone of His power has imbedded in the ways in which He has drawn those people back out of the countries of their dispersion, to be established as a nation in their own land; He's established time periods by that means! We're living in 1987, it was 1947, b&s, when the United Nations voted for the partition of Palestine, and the generation that sees the budding of the fig tree and all the other trees, is going to see the return of Jesus Christ, as the Stone power, just like that great colossus upon the feet.

B&S, I would like to leave with an urgent plea; 1947 was when they voted for the partition of Israel, 1948 was when it came into existence. God is telling us very distinctly, two things; that His purpose is marching on, and that it depends on His righteousness as to the way it's going to be effected. How does His righteousness come into this picture? in exactly the same way, b&s, as it came into the picture as He dispossessed the Amorites to set up His kingdom. He wouldn't do it until the iniquity of the Amorites was full, the iniquity of the Amorites is almost full! there is nothing, b&s, in all this world that has contributed to the maturity of the iniquity of the Amorites, than the medium of television. It has dispensed the filth of the Amorites into practically every home under heaven today, in the western society in particular. It came into existence in the United States of America in 1948! B&S, the plea is, that we will be wise, that we will understand, that we will jealously guard the singleness of mind that God has given to us, as the chasted virgin that we need to be, to be presented before our Husband on the day when He appears. Let us not allow that singleness of mind, b&s, to be eroded away and to be destroyed by the mediums that are in this earth today. We'll stand in our lot at the end of the days with Daniel, we'll be there, b&s, as the stars who turn many to righteousness in the age to come, and we will live, not only for the hidden period of the millennium, but we will still be there, as Daniel 7 verse 18 says, 'that the saints of the Most High will take the kingdom, and they will possess the kingdom, and they will possess it for ever, even for the olam of the kingdom and the age which extends into that remote period of everlasting life, time without end, in which the earth will indeed, 'be filled with the glory of God, as the waters cover the sea, and there will be no beasts left upon the face of this earth'.