Daniel & Revelation End-time Prophecies Sermon Series Study # 20: USSR's Fall and Papacy Regains Power Daniel 11:40 – 45 Bible Sermon Study Notes by Cary Rodgers, pastor

Daniel 2 Foundation Prophecy of Daniel 7 - 12 Kingdom # 1 **Babylon** 606 B.C. **Medo-Persia** 2 538 B.C. Grecia 3 331 B.C. 1st Phase Rome 4 168 B.C.- A.D 476 2nd Phase **Divided Europe** (Rome) 5 Papal Rome 538 AD - 1798 AD **Details of Kingdoms 6 and 7 in Daniel 11:36 – 45** USSR (Communism) 6 1922 AD – 1991 AD Papal Rome leads world governing body 7 (Now set up)

USSR sixth empire

Like the France of the Napoleon years USSR wanted to stamp out the existence of God in the minds of the people. USSR established atheism as the only scientific truth. Criticism of atheism or the state's anti-religious policies was forbidden and could lead to forced retirement, arrest and/or imprisonment. It was extremely dangerous to be a Christian within the USSR. "In the Soviet Union, in addition to the methodical closing and destruction of churches, the charitable and social work formerly done by ecclesiastical authorities was taken over by the state. As with all private property, Church owned property was confiscated into public use. The few places of worship left to the Church were legally viewed as state property which the government permitted the church to use. Protestant Christians in the USSR (Baptists, Pentecostals, Adventists etc.) in the period after the Second world war were compulsively sent to mental hospitals, or endured trials and imprisonment (often for refusal to enter military service). Some were even compulsively deprived of parental rights."

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Persecution of Christians in the Soviet Union

How did USSR fall and did Papal Rome regain its POWER back to be the seventh empire?

Daniel 11:40

40 And at the <u>time of the end</u> shall the **king of the south <u>push at him</u>**: and <u>the king of the north</u> shall come against him <u>like a whirlwind</u>, with <u>chariots</u>, and with <u>horsemen</u>, and with <u>many ships</u>; and <u>he shall enter into the countries</u>, and shall **overflow and pass over**.

When is the time of the end?

We are living in it NOW! The last earthly empire, the seventh empire for Babylon, is set up as we speak. Jesus is coming extremely soon!

In Daniel 11:40 who is the king of the south and king of the north?

Remember, Bible prophecy in Daniel reveals how prophecy directly affects God's people. Before Jesus was nailed to the cross and the stoning of Stephen, prophecy centered around the literal nation of Israel as God's chosen. Since the stoning of Stephen, the Jewish nation's last official act to totally reject the message of the Messiah, Bible prophecy focuses on God's people worldwide.

Geographically, the "king of the north" in Daniel 11:6-16, referred to the country north of Israel which was Syria (Seleucus Kingdom). The "king of the south" geographically south of Israel was Egypt (Ptolemy Kingdom). Israel was in the center of prophecy. When Pagan Rome conquered Syria it became the "king of the north", Daniel 11:17 - 22. After the crucifixion of Christ and the stoning of Steven, Israel was no longer the center of prophecy. When Rome fell and handed over power to Papal Rome, Papal Rome and it's Popes became the "king of the north". They are identified as the "king of the north" from Daniel 11:40 – 45.

The "king of the south" in Daniel 11:40 is no longer referring to literal Egypt. As in Revelation 11:8 we have to look at the past character of Egypt. **How does Revelation 11:8 refer to Egypt?**

Revelation 11:8

8 And their dead bodies shall lie in the street of the great city, which spiritually is called Sodom and Egypt, where also our Lord was crucified.

Was Jesus literally crucified in Sodom and Egypt? No

Egypt in this content is not referring to the literal Egypt, but the spiritual character of ancient Egypt.

"Of all nations presented in Bible history, Egypt most boldly denied the existence of the living God and resisted His commands. No monarch ever ventured upon more open and highhanded rebellion against the authority of

Heaven than did the king of Egypt. When the message was brought him by Moses, in the name of the Lord, Pharaoh proudly answered: "Who is Jehovah, that I should hearken unto His voice to let Israel go? I know not Jehovah, and moreover I will not let Israel go." Exodus 5:2, A.R.V. This is atheism, and the nation represented by Egypt would give voice to a similar denial of the claims of the living God and would manifest a like spirit of unbelief and defiance." - Ellen White, Great Controversy, p. 269

The sixth empire, USSR had the same character of ancient Egypt who rejected the existence of God.

The "king of the south" in Daniel 11:40 is referring to Atheistic Communist USSR.

What did the king of the south USSR do?

Verse 40 ... "the Kingdom of the south shall push at (Hebrew: before) him (what?):

What was USSR pushing and promoting?

Atheistic Communism

Vatican (Papal Rome) was USSR's main target of attack.

Remember: The USSR had plans to extend atheistic communist rule over the entire world. They pushed it all over the world, especially in Papal Rome's Catholic countries.

From the beginning of USSR establishment, they had hatred against Papal Rome who was in the process of trying to regain its strength. USSR expanded their empire by conquering countries with large populations of Roman Catholics such as Ukraine, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Romania. USSR wanted to stamp out Papal Rome's influence around the world. Through the propaganda of USSR, communism was able to make its entrance into heavily Catholic Spanish areas such as Cuba. The USSR was pushing all over the world to absorb the Roman Catholic churches, properties, and enterprises.

Here are some examples of USSR's atheistic communist propaganda that it pushed around the world:



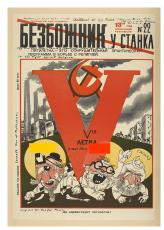
1930's: "For the Industrial Plan; for completing a five-year plan in only four; against religion."



1920's: "Long live the 3rd Communist International – from a red October to a world revolution."

"The press relayed slogans like "let us deal a crushing blow to religion!" or "we must achieve liquidation of the Church and complete liquidation of religious superstitions!". Religious belief was presented as superstitious

and backward. It often printed pictures of former churches that had been demolished or turned into other uses." - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USSR anti-religious campaign (1928%E2%80%931941)



1929 cover of the magazine Bezbozhnik, published by the League of Militant Atheists

League of Miltant Atheists in USSR was also translated as Society of The Godless formed in 1925. "It was an atheistic and antireligious organization of workers and intelligentsia that developed in Soviet Russia under the influence of the ideological and cultural views and policies of the Soviet Communist Party from 1925 to 1947."

It's main purpose: "The promotion of atheism and the extermination of religion in all its manifestations." Over 3.5 million volunteers - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/League of Militant Atheists

What was the king of the north's (Papal Rome) response?

Verse 40: "and **the king of the north (Papal Rome)** shall **come against him (USSR)** 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."

Papal Rome fought back with US "power" on their side to overwhelm USSR and bring it down! Notice in verse 40 that the Papacy used "chariots, ships, and horsemen." Daniel was given a picture of things in his vision here of things that he was already familiar with. In the ancient world horses and chariots were not only used for war but they were also used to relay messages between people who lived several miles apart. Horses and chariots were known for their fast mode of transportation to relay messages and ships were known to carry large quantities of goods or people to far distant places.

Instead of using all out war with missiles, tanks, and guns to overthrow USSR, the papacy with the help of the United States used swift modes of transportation and communication to relay messages of propaganda of those countries inside the USSR and provided the goods and equipment needed to stealthily undermine the power of the USSR.

How did it happen?

The Cold War

After World War II, the US and USSR who were war allies became bitter enemies.

Many of the Soviet forces who fought to liberate the countries of Eastern Europe from Nazi control remained in the region even after Germany's surrender in 1945.

After World War II, Germany was divided among its four allies; US, England, France, and USSR. The US, England, and France were democratic nations that divided among themselves the western part of Germany. Communistic USSR took the eastern part of Germany. The capital of Germany, Berlin, with citizens of over 2 million people was the jewel of Germany. Even though it was decimated by World War II, all four allies wanted the capital. The major problem was that it was in the eastern part of Germany under USSR control. An agreement was drafted that Berlin would be divided up. West Berlin was divided by US, England and France and East Berlin was given to USSR. West Berlin was democratic and East Berlin was communistic. For years people could go in and out of the two sides with no problem until East Berlin began to lose a large part of its

population to West Berlin, a democratic free society. In 1961 East Berlin tried to put a stop to that by building a wall between East and West Berlin so no one could escape to West Berlin. This wall became a towering symbol of communism and USSR's world wide status.

The Cold War is a description of the type of war US had with USSR since 1947. It was a war without the firing of weapons or missiles. It was a war of words, policies, political maneuvering, and military build up. After World War II, the Cold War between the USSR and US started as a result of USSR's Stalin using his military to overthrow and occupy countries between Germany and USSR to create a communism "buffer zone". The Soviets quickly became an enormous political and economic influence in the region and the Soviet Union actively assisted local communist parties in coming to power. By 1948, seven eastern European countries had communist governments.

There were great realistic fears that the cold war between US and USSR would end up becoming a catastrophic all out nuclear war! The closest call was in 1962 during the Cuban Missile crisis. The Cuban Missile crisis also known as the October Crisis of 1962 "was a 13-day (October 16–28, 1962) confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union concerning American ballistic missile deployment in Italy and Turkey with consequent Soviet ballistic missile deployment in Cuba. The confrontation is often considered the closest the Cold War came to escalating into a full-scale nuclear war.[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cuban Missile Crisis]

The possibility of nuclear war between the US and USSR continued to grow. In 1983 movies like "The Day After" that depicted a US and USSR nuclear war and other propaganda was used to prepare millions of Americans for nuclear war. At the beginning of the 1980's it looked like USSR power was invincible and stronger then ever and would never be conquered or dismantled.

This Cold War between the world's superpowers US and USSR started in 1947, a couple of years after the end of WW2 and continued until USSR was dismantled on December 26, 1991.

How was USSR dismantled by the Papacy with the help of the United States?

There were several factors that dismantled the USSR. One of the main ones was that USSR was struggling economically. The Cold War and the arms race with the US took it's toll. They like the Pagan Roman Empire in the pass grew too large. The countries under USSR rule was oppressed and uprising began to boil. But what turned the heat up on that to a great boiling point was the partnership between the US and Papal Rome in the mid 1980's when US President, Ronald Reagan and Papal Rome's Pope John Paul II created an alliance to end USSR's communism. Time Magazine's February 24, 1992 cover page titled this union a "Holy Alliance". In that article it reveals the covert (secret/undercover) operations that US and Papal Rome used to bring down communism.

"Reagan and the pope agreed to undertake a clandestine campaign to hasten the dissolution of the communist empire," wrote Carl Bernstein, the former Watergate reporter who has studied the Reagan-John Paul relationship. Declares Richard Allen, Reagan's first National Security Adviser: "This was one of the great secret alliances of all time."

Daniel 11:40 depicts this alliance that came against USSR like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen [modes of fast transportation and communication channels], and with many ships [air and land]; and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow and pass over."

Reagan and John Paul's alliance gave fire to the Revolutions of 1989 also known as the Autumn of Nations. They covertly supported groups within the satellite USSR nations that opposed USSR communism in Poland, Hungary, East Germany, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, and Romania with money, strategic support, and equipment. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Revolutions of 1989]

They smuggled in tons of equipment -- fax machines, printing presses, transmitters, telephones, shortwave radios, video cameras, photocopiers, telex machines, computers, word processors to support these groups. Hundreds of ships, planes, and vehicles were used for the operations.

As a result USSR nations revolted and rebelled against communism, they wanted to have a free democratic state free from USSR. In 1985 Mikhail Gorbachev became the new leader of USSR. He was one of the most progressive leaders of USSR. He was open for change. He felt the pressure of the economic woes of USSR and the uprising that were taking place in its satellite nations.

While in West Berlin on June 12, 1987, President Ronald Reagan during his speech challenged Gorbachev to "tear down this wall," referring to that symbol of Communism that separated West Berlin from East Berlin.

The secret operation between Reagan and Pope John had results. In 1989 Poland gained its independence back from under the USSR. Then on November 9, 1989, the symbol of communism (the Berlin wall) was torn down. West and East Germany was unified. After this other USSR nations were able to gain their independence back.

Dissolution of USSR

"The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) ceased to exist on December 26, 1991 by declaration no. 142-H of the Soviet of the Republics of the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union,[1] acknowledging the independence of the twelve republics of the Soviet Union, and creating the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). On the previous day, December 25, 1991, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev had resigned, declaring his office extinct, and handed over the Soviet nuclear missile launching codes to Russian President Boris Yeltsin." http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dissolution_of_the_Soviet_Union

USSR was the sixth empire of Bible prophecy since Babylon ended. The USSR empire only lasted for 69 years from 1922 to 1991.

Now with USSR off the scene what are the plans of the king of the north – Papal Rome? 7th Empire NOW already setup!

Revelation describes Papal Rome as the beast. It reveals that Papal Rome will come back to power:

Revelation 13:1-4

- 1 And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.
- 2 And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.
- 3 And I saw one of his heads as it were wounded to death; and his deadly wound was healed: and all the world wondered after the beast.
- 4 And they worshipped the dragon which gave power unto the beast: and they worshipped the beast, saying, Who is like unto the beast? who is able to make war with him?

What are some things that Papal Rome will do after it is set up with worldwide power as the seventh and final earthly kingdom?

Daniel 11:41-42

41 He shall <u>enter also into the glorious land</u>, and <u>many countries shall be overthrown</u>: but these shall escape out of his hand, **even Edom, and Moab**, and the chief of the **children of Ammon**.

42 He shall **stretch forth his hand also upon the countries**: and the land of **Egypt shall not escape**.

Remember when we studied Daniel 11:16 Israel was historically known as the "glorious land" that was suppose to be a witness to bless all nations about the Creator God and the coming Messiah. They were to glorify God by

reflecting the character of God. This was the same "glorious land" in which the Messiah, Jesus Christ, came as our sacrificial Lamb and example of how to have victory over sin. Historically, Israel is still known as the "glorious land" or the "holy land" because of its historical past.

From the time of the crusades, it has been evident that the Roman Papacy has desired to enter Israel, to reign from Jerusalem. There the "Holy Father" would reign over "all the world" from the "Holy City" and he would be known as "The Prince of Peace" in the "City of Peace Jeru-salem" representative of God on earth to "every kindred, tongue and nation."

Did the Papacy enter in the "glorious land" as prophesied since the fall of USSR in 1991?

Historically, the Papacy rarely visited Jerusalem. Pope Paul VI in 1964 made a short visit, but it was not until 2000 that the pope's visit became more frequent for the purpose of bringing peace and unification between all religions especially the Jews, Christians, and Muslims. Ironically these are the three groups that USSR used to despise!

Popes In The Holy Land: After 2,000 Years, A New Tradition

May 24, 2014, Greg Myre, NPR News https://www.npr.org/sections/parallels/2014/05/23/315121888/popes-in-the-holy-land-after-2-000-years-a-new-tradition

"What papal destination could be more natural than the Holy Land, where the pontiff can walk Jerusalem's stone streets and follow the footsteps of Jesus. Popes have dispatched envoys, emissaries and even Crusader armies to claim the territory for the Catholic Church. And from the Vatican, it's just a short hop across the Mediterranean.

So Pope Francis must be joining a long list of predecessors when he arrives Saturday for a three-day visit in the region, including Monday in Jerusalem.

Well, not exactly. No pope ever traveled to Jerusalem until <u>Paul VI</u> spent one day in the city, on Jan. 4, 1964. That pilgrimage also marked the first time a reigning pontiff had ever been on an airplane. Equally remarkable, Paul VI was the first pope to leave Italy in more than 150 years.

With that historic trip, the era of the stay-at-home pope was beginning to end. It disappeared for good when the globe-trotting John Paul II became pontiff in 1978.

Still, it took John Paul more than two decades as pope, and trips to dozens of other countries, before he appeared in the Holy Land in 2000. When he did, it was a huge success and established a new papal tradition that has been followed by Pope Benedict, who visited in 2009, and now Pope Francis. So Francis is the fourth pope to visit the Holy Land, and the third in the past 14 years.

Through much of history, popes weren't welcome in the Holy Land.

For many Muslims, the papacy is still linked to the Crusades of the 11th through the 13th centuries, when successive popes sent armies to battle Muslims and reclaim holy places for the Christians.

An important breakthrough came in 1994, when the Vatican and Israel formally established relations, paving the way for better ties and John Paul's 2000 visit."

Who are Edom, Moab, the chief of the children of Ammon?

Note: "...But these shall escape out of his hand: Edom and Moab and the chief of the children of Ammon."

The Hebrew meaning for the names of the three named peoples appear to link with the sealed 144,000 in number found in Revelation 7 and 14. The 144,000 are multiples of 12 that represent God's worldwide discipleship at the end of time. They are like the purpose of the 12 tribes and the 12 disciples to share the everlasting truth of God's word to others.

Though prosecuted in the last days, the 144,000 are not defiled by the papacy they will be delivered by God and escape out of the hands of the papacy.

How does the names Edom, Moah, and the chief of the children of Ammon reflect the character of the 144,000?

Hebrew Name Study: **"Edom"** = red; **Revelation 1:5**, "Unto him that loved us ,and washed us from our sins in his **own blood**." (144,00 sealed in His image)

Hebrew Word Study: **"Moab"** = "Of his Father" - BDB Hebrew Dictionary Definition: "ab" — Word No. OT:1 'ab (awb); a primitive word; father, in a literal and immediate...application). - Strong's

Revelation 14:1, 2; "And I looked, and, lo, a Lamb stood on mount Zion, and with him an hundred forty and four thousand, **having his Father's name** written in their **foreheads**."

Hebrew Word Study: "Chief"= first-fruits (144,000)

Revelation 14:4, "These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, being the **first-fruits unto** God and to the Lamb."

Definition: "Ammon" = "tribal" - Strong's

Tribal = a people (as a congregated unit); specifically a tribe (as those of Israel); hence (collect.) troops or, attendants; fig. a flock:— folk, men, nation, people. New Strong's Exhaustive Concordance.

144,000 are described in Revelation 7:5-8 as those who come from the 12 tribes of Israel spiritually by reflecting the character of God in the names of each tribe. We will do a more detailed study on the 144,000 when we study Revelation chapter 7 at a later time.

Verse 42 He shall **stretch forth his hand also upon the countries**: and the land of **Egypt shall not escape**.

A propaganda documentary movie on the pope and the papacy shown to the world, "A Man of His Word." The whole movie is about Pope Francis. It is currently showing around the world. In the advertisement clip of the movie he makes strong hints to the need for Sunday laws.

Through the Paris Agreement over 170 nations have already given their powers over to an international governing body in which the Papacy controls behind the scene. More on this when we study Daniel 12.

What kind of economic power will Papal Rome have in the end? Daniel 11:43

43 But he shall have **power** over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps.

Papal Rome will have control over world commerce. That is happening now. They play a major part in the centralized banking system.

October 24, 2011 Reuters Article: Vatican Calls For A Centralized World Bank To Be Set Up

"The Vatican called on Monday for the establishment of a "global public authority" and a "central world bank" to rule over financial institutions that have become outdated and often ineffective in dealing fairly with crises. The Vatican called for the establishment of "a supranational authority" with worldwide scope and "universal jurisdiction" to guide economic policies and decisions."

[http://uk.reuters.com/article/2011/10/24/vatican-economy-idUKL5E7LO1LS20111024]

Revelation 13:17

17 And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name.

In the very end of time what will greatly trouble Papal Rome?

Daniel 11:44

44 But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him: therefore he shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many.

The "tidings" in Greek is "something heard" or "an announcement." That announcement is found in the Three Angels message in Revelation 14:6 - 12 and expressed loudly as the Loud Cry in Revelation 18:1 - 5

Babylon in which Papal Rome is the mother of will fall!

But he will go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many! Revelation 13:15

15 And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

Where will Papal Rome set up its Headquarters at the end? Daniel 11:45

45 And he shall plant the tabernacles of his palace **between the seas in the glorious holy mountain**; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.

The glorious holy mountain is historically known as Jerusalem. The papacy will soon set up its headquarters in Jerusalem as prophesied. - "One church—one pope—one universal headquarters: Jerusalem."

A Seat for the Pope at King David's Tomb: Israel seems to have sold Jerusalem to the Vatican.

February 1, 2013, Arutz Sheva 7 Israel National News

[http://www.israelnationalnews.com/Articles/Article.aspx/12814]

"An historic agreement has been drafted between Israel and the Vatican. The Israeli authorities have granted the Pope an official seat in the room where the Last Supper is believed to have taken place, on Mount Zion in Jerusalem, and where David and Solomon, Jewish kings of Judea, are considered by some researchers, to also be buried.

It is the culmination of a long campaign by the Catholic Church to regain religious stewardship over the place where Jesus is supposed to have broken bread and drunk wine with his disciples on the eve of his crucifixion

According to our sources, the agreement, which is expected to be ratified next June, gives the Pope a "special authority" over the second floor of the building, so that Christian pilgrims will be able to celebrate religious functions like Pope John Paul did in 2000.

The agreement constitutes Israel's capitulation to the Vatican's efforts to "Christianize" the holy site, like when a Catholic convent was built in Auschwitz.

The Catholic Church has long wanted control over part of the area on Mt. Zion so as to turn it into an international religious center for Catholics. The blueprint of the agreement reads as follows: "The Vatican hands over this use of the Cenacle to the Custody of the Holy Land which will keep the Cenacle open from 6 AM to 8 AM for the celebration of the Holy Mass"."

Vatican signs first treaty with 'State of Palestine', Israel angered

June 26, 2015 Reuters, [https://www.reuters.com/article/us-vatican-palestinians/vatican-signs-first-treaty-with-state-of-palestine-israel-angered-idUSKBN0P618120150626]

"VATICAN CITY (Reuters) - The Vatican signed its first treaty with the "State of Palestine" on Friday, calling for "courageous decisions" to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and backing a two-state solution.

The accord, which concerns the Catholic Church's activities in areas controlled by the Palestinian Authority, also confirmed the Vatican's increasingly proactive role in foreign policy under Pope Francis. Last year, it brokered the historic resumption of ties between the United States and Cuba."

At the very end the seventh empire will be destroyed by God. Verse 45 (end)...yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him.

This matches with Daniel 8:25.

Daniel 8:25

25 And through his (Papacy) policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, and by peace shall destroy many: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand.

Final movements will be very rapid. Are you ready?