

# INSIGHT

Volume 7 Number 3

September 2010



## TEN HORNS RISING

International Congregation of Yahweh

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A MAGAZINE OF BIBLICAL UNDERSTANDING

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ICY is a nonprofit, religious organization dedicated to the restoration of the original doctrines of the Apostolic assembly. ICY follows the practice of the New Testament assemblies who kept the Law of the Old Testament. The true assembly is built on the foundation of the apostles' and the prophets' (Eph. 2:20) message of obedience to Yahweh's Law (Isa. 8:20; Jer. 26:4-6; Ezk. 20:19).

Our major doctrines include the name of the Creator, Yahweh, and His Son, Yahshua. Only these names are to be used in worship rather than such names as Jesus, God, Lord, Jehovah, etc. Ample Scriptural and historical evidence support this belief; not the least of which is the commandment against taking the name of Yahweh in vain (Ex. 20:7).

ICY also teaches the restored truth that the weekly seventh-day Sabbath is from dawn-to-dark. It is NOT from sunset-to-sunset as commonly taught. Yahweh's true Holy Days and New Moons are to be observed as well. Another major fundamental belief is the atoning sacrifice of the Messiah Yahshua.

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# What the World Needs Now

From the Editor: *Gary C. Miller*

**W**hat does our modern 21<sup>st</sup> century world need? From a distance, out in space, our bluish jeweled Earth seems at peace with the universe; quietly cruising “gingerly” through space at over 66,000 mph while silently turning on its axis.

All appears well...from a distance. But an up close and personal view reveals a world not at peace; a 21<sup>st</sup> century world with *staggering problems*.

In America, for example, the ticking US debt time-bomb, an estimated \$127.8 *trillion* including the off-budget national deficits, enslaves our nation (*Uncommon Wisdom*, May 3, 2010: USDebtClock.org). This translates into a crushing and unsustainable \$372,750 per person debt. In perspective, a trillion dollars in one-dollar bills laid end-to-end would stretch coast-to-coast across the US *3,500 times!*

Starting with WWII, the US national debt has grown exponentially, and is now in its most rapid upward climb (*Arkansas Democrat-Gazette*, May 3, 2009). What can slow or reverse this daunting “upright spike” of colossal debt? The Bible has the answer.

This massive debt reflects the devaluation of the “green back.” If you had stashed away \$5,000 in 1913, when the Federal Reserve was created, it would now be worth *only 4.5 cents* (*Uncommon Wisdom*, May 3, 2010)!! Meaning, prices have so outpaced the value of the dollar, it would take over \$110,000 to buy what the \$5,000 would buy in 1913. That is not a misprint. Do the math. That is about *2,100 percent decrease* in the dollar’s value!

But \$5,000 invested in gold in 1913 would be worth a whopping \$287,500 today!

Did Yahweh mean what He said that money must be silver or gold; something real? There is no end to the amount of paper money we can print. It has been estimated that it now costs more to print a dollar than it is worth.

Some now believe we are as close to a crippling 1930’s style depression as we have been since the October 29, 1929 “Black Thursday” stock market crash. What is needed to turn this around? Or can we? It can and will be turned around in the not too distant future. How? We will soon see.

But the US is not alone in its sea of debt. Nation-after-nation stands on the brink of financial ruin. Greece’s bankrupt economy, now in shambles, has sent shockwaves throughout the EU with riots in the streets, unemployment and protests over government cut-backs.

What *does* the world need? More government programs, full steam ahead “service” societies, more and bigger churches, more tolerance, another civil rights movement, maybe additional massive charity organizations, better equipped military perhaps, another

political party with just the “right” candidate?

Hardly! We **know** these are NOT the solutions, because that is what we have now. These simply chase the effects, one crisis after another.

What the world needs now, but does not have, is the **solution to these problems which eliminate the root CAUSES**.

The Good News is that there ARE solutions! AND, believe it or not, **THEY ARE ON THE WAY...COMING IN LESS THAN A GENERATION!**

It definitely will not be business as usual. Unheard-of changes are imminent as drastically new ways of thinking about religion, government and man’s role in government and society, will replace current practices.

Help is on the way. But it is **not** the “New World Order” envisioned in some political circles. It will not be a recycled, next edition of the United Nations. It is rather, the new order of Yahweh’s unstoppable, overpowering, world-ruling Government!

This world government, “The Kingdom of Yahweh,” will have as its constitution the Law of the Bible (Isa. 11:9). This law is found in the first five books of Scripture; what is sometimes called “The Law of Moses.”

One religious organization has referred to this law as “The DEAD LAW OF MOSES.” But this Law is very much “alive.” It has already been ratified as the constitutional code of the coming Kingdom of Yahweh.

With this restored, unadulterated Law as its foundation, and Yahshua as its King, this world government will be a juggernaut, the likes of which the world has never seen. There has never been anything like it.

Talk about changes!!

Get ready for a *thousand years* of PEACE (Isa. 9:7, 11:6-10; Rev. 20:6), the end of generational poverty, the sorrows of today replaced with global prosperity (Deut. 28:1-13; Rev. 7:17), global radiant health (Ex. 23:25), peace breaking out everywhere instead of war (Isa. 2:4), clean safe cities (Deut. 28:3), the end of terrorism (Lev. 25:18; Psa. 91:5), wonderful weather, clean air and water, no drought (Lev. 26:4), bumper crops unmatched in history *without chemical fertilizers* (Amos 9:13), a vastly extended life expectancy... worldwide (Isa. 65:20), and the end of out-of-control government excesses (Isa. 23:3)!

Though such a utopia may sound too good to be true, the truth is, it sounds that good, because it IS true. It will be *that good and MORE SO*. **This is the gospel message of Yahshua the Messiah, the good news of the coming Kingdom of Yahweh!** It is the message of change, hope, righteous government, and lasting peace and prosperity on Earth... guaranteed in writing.

**Who could possibly oppose that message?**

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# Clean and Unclean Foods in the New Testament

Acts 10:9-16, Romans 14:14

**D**o the New Testament verses, Acts 10:9-16 and Romans 14:14 show the Laws of clean and unclean foods are no longer binding; that all foods are now clean? Did the New Testament church change the rules, so now the Old Testament food laws can be ignored?

Many believe it is now Biblically permissible to eat pork, all seafood and all freshwater fish including catfish. It is commonly taught that Peter's vision (Acts 10:9-16) proves all these unclean animals as well as squirrels, rabbits, snails, etc. have been cleansed for food? Is this true?

Did Paul teach (Rom. 14:14) Christians are free to *decide for themselves* rather than use the Old Testament as the rule of faith in matters of clean and unclean foods? Is it really now simply up to each individual? What are these verses telling us?

## ACTS 10:9-16

The verses, Acts 10:9-16, are often taken as conclusive proof of a divine command from heaven permitting, and even requiring, us to eat all types of meats designated as unclean in the Old Testament. To many, this shows the "change in the Law" which supposedly took place after the Messiah's death and resurrection.

Was there really a change in the laws of clean and unclean meats? Do these verses actually do away with those laws?

Here is that account.

In a trance, Peter "...saw heaven opened and a certain vessel descending unto him, as it had been a great sheet knit at the four corners and let down to the earth: Wherein were all manner of four-footed beasts of the earth, and wild beasts, and creeping things, and fowls of the air." (Acts

10:11-13; *KJV*).

What astonished Peter was the amazing statement he heard next:

"And there came a voice to him, Rise, Peter; kill, and eat" (v. 13).

Could this person, Yahshua [the "Lord," v. 14; *KJV*] really mean that? What was going on here? Peter was understandably shocked at such a suggestion and apparently responded without hesitation:

"And Peter said, Not so Lord (*KJV*); referring to whom he assumed to be Yahweh or Yahshua); for I have **never** eaten anything that is common or unclean" (v. 14).

This was an *apostle's* confession of *total abstinence from ever eating anything common or unclean!* He could not have been more emphatic.

But the conversation was not over: "And the voice spoke unto him again the second time, What God (*KJV*; Yahweh) hath cleansed, that call not thou common" (v. 15).

This statement was repeated *three times* and then the sheet-like vessel was taken back up into heaven (v. 16).

Did Peter suddenly rush to judgment, as so many do, concluding: "Right, we can now eat anything common or unclean we want! No problem! What a relief, finally, out from under that old Law of the Old Testament... that yoke!"

Hardly. Notice what he did. "Now while Peter **doubted in himself** what this vision which he had seen should mean..." (v. 15). Why did he doubt?

There was good reason to doubt. Recall earlier he stated that he had never eaten anything common or unclean. Why not? Because aside from being taught as a child to obey the Law which prohibited the use of unclean meats, he had previously spent at least three years with the Messiah Yahshua almost on a daily basis,

watching His example, learning from Him *face-to-face*. Never, previously nor during that three-plus years, had he eaten anything common or unclean; never. He obviously followed the example of Yahshua: "...Christ also suffered for us, **leaving us an example, that ye should follow in His steps: Who did no sin...**" (I Pet. 2:21-22).

And what is sin? "...for sin is the transgression of the Law" (I John 3:4). Eating anything common or unclean is a sin, prohibited by Law (See Lev. 11; Deut. 14:1-20).

So clearly, during those years he was involved in Yahshua's ministry, he had **never** seen Yahshua eat anything common or unclean. Yahshua obviously did not give the *slightest hint* the Old Testament food laws had or would ever be changed. That is the example Peter followed, and the one we are to follow.

Remember it was Yahshua who said, "It is easier for heaven and earth to pass than one tittle of the Law to fail" (Luke 16:17). And "Think not that I am come to destroy the Law or the Prophets. I am NOT come to destroy, but to fulfill (Gr. "fully perform")" (Matt. 5:17). Did He mean what He said? Without a doubt! Have heaven and earth passed, dissolved? Hardly. So the Law must still be in full force...every tittle of it, every letter!

Then what was this perplexing vision all about? We must let the Bible tell us; let it explain the meaning of this vision rather than trying to interpret it ourselves.

The *Biblical explanation* is found later in the chapter in verse 28: "...but God [YHWH: Yahweh] hath showed me that I should not call any man common or unclean." By Peter's own admission, this is the meaning of the vision.

He goes on to explain further in



verses 35 and 36: "...Of a truth I perceive that God [KJV; "Yahweh"] is no respecter of persons: But in every nation [not just Israelites] he that feareth and worketh righteousness, is accepted with him." This is Peter's explanation of the vision. **It is THE explanation of the vision.**

Notice the Bible does not say that this vision meant there are no longer

## "The Bible itself explains this vision."

any unclean animals or that Peter began eating unclean animals after the vision.

It shows rather, Peter was to accept that Gentiles also could be saved.

What changed *after the vision*? Peter's attitude and actions toward the Gentiles was the only change; not toward the law of clean and unclean foods.

In fact, in chapter 11, verse 18 his explanation of the vision enabled the other disciples to understand, "... Then hath God [KJV; "Yahweh"] also to the Gentiles granted repentance unto life."

How clear! The Bible itself explains the vision. We are not to interpret this ourselves. Given this Biblical interpretation, it is hardly surprising to find *no record whatsoever* that Peter in any way changed his eating habits, and began eating unclean foods. None.

## ROMANS 14:14

This verse, as with many of the apostle Paul's writings, must be approached carefully, because Paul's writings are for the most part not elementary, but typically more advanced. Therefore, definite caution is advised when studying his epistles. Even the apostle Peter commented on the difficulty of Paul's writings: "As also in all his epistles...in which are some things **hard to be understood**,..." (II Pet. 3:16).

Peter did not say he did not understand what Paul wrote, but that it was often *hard to understand*, requiring

more study and diligence to prove there were no contradictions or no unlawful statements.

He even gave a warning about those who study Paul without knowing and practicing the Law. Continuing he said, "...which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction. Ye therefore, beloved, seeing ye know these things before, beware lest ye also, being led away with error of the wicked [those who do not keep the Law], fall from your own steadfastness" (II Pet. 3:16-17).

Peter, knowing such errors were inevitable, was giving **those in the church** a heads-up to be on guard ("seeing ye *know these things before*...") when studying Paul's works. The false arguments of the wicked who "wrest" the Scriptures [literally to "twist, turn awry;"<sup>(1)</sup>] appeal to our lawless carnal nature and can weaken our resolve. So Peter was saying, "Watch out!" lest any, once converted, is led astray by such heresy.

Now to the verse in question. Paul's comments in Romans 14:14 require comparing this verse with the account of Peter's vision and a closer look at the Greek words translated *common* and *unclean*. Paul's stand on the immutability of Yahweh's Law *proves* this verse cannot mean the Old Testament laws of clean and unclean are no longer in effect.

So how is this verse compatible with this fact?

In the *KJV* it reads: "I know, and am persuaded by the Lord Jesus ["Master Yahshua"], that there is nothing unclean of itself: but to him that esteemeth any thing to be unclean, to him it is unclean."

On the surface this verse appears to do away with the law of unclean foods, "...nothing unclean of itself..." And also appears to say that unclean things are strictly a matter of opinion. Are unclean things really just what each person decides? Is it only a kind of social "relativism" that each can decide for himself; no absolutes in this matter? Not at all.



**Acts 10:28, Peter's vision:** "...but God [YHWH: Yahweh] hath showed me that I should not call any man common or unclean." By Peter's own admission, this is the meaning of the vision. [vanderbilt.edu](http://vanderbilt.edu)

### a. Key Term and Cleansing

The key is the term translated *unclean* (SEC 2839) here. The word translated "unclean" three times in Rom. 14:14 is the *same word* translated "common" in Peter's vision, "*koynos*." (SEC 2839; Acts 10:14-15). In Peter's vision two different words are used, "common" (*koynos*) and "unclean" (*akathartos*; SEC 169).

The account of Peter's vision reveals what is *common* (*koynos*) can be *cleansed*: "...What God (YHWH, Yahweh) hath cleansed, that call not thou common" (Acts 10:15).

"Common" people (one who becomes unclean) can be cleansed as Peter's vision shows. Humans can become unclean in a variety of ways from eating unclean foods to touching a dead body (See Lev. 11:1-47; 15:1-33; Num. 5:2; 19:11-13).

In many of these cases, cleansing is

done by simply washing the body or the body and clothes before evening. In more serious cases, such as touching a dead body, bone of a man, or a grave, a special soap-like mixture (“water of purification”) is applied on the third and seventh day for cleansing. Failure to comply with the laws of cleansing or eating unclean foods is sin...a much bigger problem, leaving the person with “...his uncleanness yet upon him...” and “...that soul shall be cut off from Israel...” (Num 19:13).

In such instances a person *becomes unclean* (is *common*) and *remains unclean*...a very serious offense. He

## “FOOD TOO, CAN BE “COMMON,” MADE UNCLEAN...”

is then permanently in that state, a sinful condition, and an outcast.

Cleansing of this state is a major purpose of the Day of Atonements (Lev. 16:19, 30). Too, because of Yahshua’s sacrifice, this permanent state of uncleanness (this *sin*) can be reversed, i.e. forgiven: “...the blood of Yahshua Messiah [“Jesus Christ,” *KJV*] *cleanseth us* from ALL sin (I John 1:7).

Notice the use of the term “cleanseth” here; indicating this includes those sins incurred when breaking the laws of clean and unclean as well as effects of other sins.

### b. Unclean Foods

Food too, can become “common,” made unclean when touched by unclean food (like filet mignon wrapped in bacon), perhaps when sacrificed to idols (Rev. 2:14), or when an unclean person touches clean food, etc.

The sirloin of the filet mignon when wrapped in bacon becomes unclean and unfit for human consumption, but not for animals in general.

So, as Paul says, there is truly nothing *common* of itself, but it becomes common, or unclean, by *what happens to it*.

Swine cannot *become* unclean (common) to humans. It is *already*, in its natural state, unclean to us. Note, however, it is not unclean *of itself*, but relative to humans. For example, the law does not prohibit, say, a lion killing and eating a pig. It is not unclean for the lion, but for human consumption it definitely is unclean and forbidden: “...they are *unclean to YOU*...[as food for us]” (Lev. 11:7).

**Clean meat**  
such as beef  
filet mignon be-  
comes unclean  
when wrapped  
in pork bacon  
as is frequently  
done. *steak-en-  
thusiast.com*



Paul’s statement in Romans 14:14 is exactly right: “...that there is nothing unclean of itself [“common,” *koynos*; *KJV* margin; Green’s Interlinear Bible]...” It is common by being *made unclean* somehow relative to mankind.

Paul clearly is *not* saying there are no unclean meats that are forbidden. Rather he is just using a succinct statement to show what “unclean” (common) is or how it is determined in an absolute sense. All this is entirely consistent with Yahweh’s Law regarding the clean and the unclean.

### c. “...to him that esteemeth...”

The last part of Paul’s statement “...but to him that esteemeth anything to be unclean to him it is unclean...” (Rom. 14:14; *KJV*) may initially appear to eliminate the Biblically lawful limits of what is unclean.

Given what we now know of Paul’s beliefs, can this verse possibly nullify the mass of evidence proving Paul did indeed obey and teach ALL of Yahweh’s Law including these important laws of diet?

Could Paul now be doing away with the laws of clean and unclean meats, afterall? Was he in fact freeing the Roman church of all obligations to observe clean and unclean meats?

Let us take his statement in parts. **First:** “...but to him that esteems [SEC 3049; reckons, values, infers or concludes: *The Complete Word Study New Testament*, Zodhiates; p. 922] anything to be *common* (unclean; *KJV*)...”

How would someone come to the conclusion that something is common? Paul had already stated that he was “...speaking to them that know the Law...” (Rom. 7:1).

## “...CLEAN OR UNCLEAN WAS NOT... A PERSONAL PREFERENCE”

Obviously then, in Romans 14:14 Paul was speaking of someone who knows the Law of clean and unclean foods, and has come to the conclusion that something [“food” is implied] is common.

If he knows the Law, then he must have used *IT* to reach that conclusion. That is the only way he *could know for sure* whether a food was common [made unclean] or clean.

Those “which...are unlearned and unstable...” (II Pet. 2:16) knowing nothing of the Law of clean and unclean food, would basically have no opinion and *no concern over such a matter!* Only those knowledgeable in the Law would be considering the matter in the first place.

### d. “...to him it is unclean...”: A Common Assumption

**Now to the second part:** “...to him [it is] *common* [“unclean;” *KJV*; Rom. 14:14].

What Paul’s statement does NOT say, what is commonly *assumed*, is the food would be unclean *to him only*. Oth-



ers, equally knowledgeable in the Law, would of necessity come to the very same conclusion. AND *to them also, the food would be common.* They would regard it as common as well.

Seriously, does Paul say or imply that if **SOMEONE ELSE who knew the laws of clean and unclean meats examined the same food** that he would reach a different conclusion; have an entirely *different value or*

## “THIS ERROR MAKES...CLEAN OR UNCLEAN OUR DECISION.”

*reckoning on the matter?* Not at all. The state of clean or unclean was not just a personal preference, but a reasoned conclusion.

Once having reached that conclusion by evaluating and deciding that a food is common, what would be his opinion, his view? What else could it possibly be, but the food had become unclean? *That IS his view.* He realizes that fact. Of course to him, the one making the evaluation, it is common.

### e. Most Prevalent Assumption about Romans 14:14

The usual assumption made regarding Paul’s statement in Romans 14:14 is that the following negative statement *must also be true*: If one *does not* esteem anything to be unclean, then for him *it is not unclean*. That really is perhaps the way most people view Paul’s statement.

That is, they assume this inverse statement must be true because we *know* the first statement *is true*: “...but to him that esteemeth any thing to be unclean, to him it is unclean.”

Is this really logical; that just because a statement is true then its negative and what is called the *inverse*, must also be true? No. Just because a statement is true, its inverse—or negative—is *not necessarily* true as well. The inverse *could* be true, but not necessarily.

Take for example the statement, “If you live in Texas, then you live in the United States.” True statement.

Look at the inverse of it: “If you *do not* live in Texas, then you *do not* live in the United States.” This is obviously a false conclusion. People could live in any number of other states and still reside in the U.S.

So what is ordinarily *assumed* about Rom. 14:14 is that if we do not consider meat to be common (unclean), then it actually is not unclean, regardless. This error makes the matter of clean or unclean *strictly OUR decision*; throwing out any absolutes regulating eating of meats.

It is this *unproven negative assumption* about Rom. 14:14, which is the core belief so widespread today, that the Old Testament laws of clean and unclean foods are no longer required. Big mistake. The Bible teaches nothing of the sort. An objective look at the evidence shows this nega-

tive assumption is in *Biblical fact, FALSE.*

## CONCLUDING POINTS

On a final note, in numerous New Testament cases Paul shows we are to avoid being unclean or becoming involved in activities, which result in that state. The Greek word translated “unclean” most often is *akathartos* (SEC 169) and its derivative (*akatharsia* [SEC 167]) translated “uncleanness” are common in the New Testament.

Examples include:

II Corinthians 6:17: “...touch not the unclean thing...;”

Ephesians 5:3: “...uncleanness...let it not be once named among you...;”

Ephesians 5:5: “For this ye **know**, that no whoremonger, **nor unclean person**...hath any inheritance in the kingdom of the Messiah [“Christ;” *KJV*] of Yahweh [“God;” *KJV*];

II Corinthians 12:21: “...have not repented of their uncleanness...”

These are bold and uncompromising statements showing the Laws of clean and unclean are binding on the New Testament church. Notice these are *Paul’s statements* in letters to the churches! Anyone who dares teach against these laws does so **against the direct and emphatic** teachings of the New Testament. We have the apostle Paul’s word on it.

*Akathartos* is used **30 times** in the New Testament (translated “unclean” 28 times; “foul” twice). Its derivative *akatharsia* is translated *uncleanness ten times*.

Multiple uses of these words included in quotes of the Old Testament (II Cor. 6:17 = Isa. 52:11) show they are equivalent to the Hebrew *tawmay* (translated “unclean”: SEC 2930, 2931) and *tumah* (SEC 2932) respectively, used in Leviticus 10-12, etc.

In Romans 14:14 Paul is referring to “common” things (*koynos*: what has become unclean), not the “*akathartos*” category of what is unclean naturally such as swine, vultures, catfish, etc. This is a very important distinction, and totally changes its meaning from the usual interpretation people place on this verse, that it is referring to all unclean animals. It is not. Actually, *the validity of the laws regarding naturally unclean animals is not even part of the discussion in this letter to the Roman church.*

For further in-depth studies of the veracity of the Laws of the Old Testament in the New Testament you may enjoy previous articles. One is titled, “Christian Freedom and the Law: Does it mean Freedom From the Law?” The other is “Law and Grace and the Dispensation of Grace.”

These are in-depth studies of these important topics and are free upon request.

#### REFERENCES:

1 - *Greek-English Lexicon*, Thayer; p. 590

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# MARK 14:30

DOES IT PROVE A BIBLICAL, "BROADER DEFINITION" OF DAY (LIGHT) WHICH INCLUDES NIGHT (DARKNESS)?

The concept of a "broad definition" of day in which the Biblical day is 24 hours is widespread. Does the Bible in fact use this broader definition as the Scriptural Day in the Gospel of Mark (ch. 14, v. 30); thereby proving the DAY is 24 hours going from sunset-to-sunset?

To answer this important question we must **first** get an absolutely clear and unambiguous **Biblical** statement which clearly defines "day," a definition that cannot be changed—not even by Yahshua himself.

We find such a statement in the beginning verses of Scripture in the First Book of the Law, Genesis: "And Elohim saw the light [can be seen]...and Elohim divided the light from the darkness. And Elohim called the light Day and darkness he called Night..." (Gen. 1:4-5).

And *what light* was to rule the day? "And Elohim made two great lights; the **greater light** to rule the day..." (Gen. 1:16).

David recorded "The **sun** to rule by day..." (Psa. 136:8).

The Law in Genesis, which states that visible light is Day and is **separated** from darkness, the Night, is immutable. It is hard to imagine anything more simply or clearly stated.

Combined with David's comment, it is equally certain that sunlight, the greater light, is the light of the Biblical Day. As long as sunlight rules as determined by Scripture, the Biblical day continues and night has not started.

The concept of a sunset-to-sunset Biblical "day" is totally at odds with these Laws stated in the First Book of the Law.

Now let us move to the verse in question. If Yahshua's statement recorded in Mark 14:30 really says night is part of the day, then He emphatically contradicted the immutable Law of Genesis. The *Biblical* definition of day is given in Genesis, so

the comment in Mark is NOT the Scriptural definition of day. It cannot be.

Yahshua cannot redefine the Law. He, himself, said, "...it is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the law to fail" (Luke 16:17). This is *another* statement so simple and clear that it is hard to imagine it could be misunderstood or misapplied; just like the definitions of day and night in Genesis!

Here is Mark 14:30:

"And Yahshua said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, that **this day** (SEC 4594), **even in this night** (SEC 3571), before the cock crows twice, thou shalt deny me thrice."

Here, the *KJV* translation appears to show that Yahshua includes the night as part of the day. Was it in fact night when Yahshua spoke these words, yet He was referring to it as the daylight period as the *KJV* and others translate as "this day..."?

According to Matthew 27:1 and Mark 15:1, "morning" began AFTER Peter's denial. Luke 22:66 says the "day" began AFTER Peter's denial. Therefore, Peter's denial took place at night, prior to morning or day. So did Yahshua *really* say the day in fact included the darkness of night?

Does the *KJV* translation (and others, *Moffatt*, *YLT*, *New Jerusalem*, etc.) show beyond any reasonable doubt a Scripturally broader definition of "day" which includes the night? If so, this is a clear contradiction of the *Law of Genesis* which states precisely that **light is day** and **darkness is night** (Gen. 1:4-5).

Let us look at *other* translations of Mark 14:30:

"Truly, I say to you, *this very night*, before the cock crows..." (*RSV*).

"Believe me, Peter" returned Jesus [Yahshua], "*this very night* before..." (*New Testament in Modern English*, Phillips).

The *New American Standard* ver-

sion, which is considered a very literal translation reads: "I say to you, that you yourself *this very night*..."

Notice the absence of the term "day" in these translations. Also, according to the *Analytical Lexicon* (Mounce, p. 413), this term (SEC 4594) should be translated "now, at present" as in Hebrews 13:8 and II Corinthians 3:15.

Likewise the *Arndt-Gingrich Greek-English Lexicon* (p. 756) says SEC 4594 indicates "now-in a little while" as in Matthew 6:30 and Luke 12:28.

The word "semeron" (SEC 4594: the word translated "to-day" or "this day" *KJV*, etc.) is an adverb, not a noun (see lexicons).

Then, given this evidence from sources other than just those translations that use "to-day or this day," it is evident that, **consistent with Genesis 1:4-5**—which it **must** be, Mark 14:30 can reasonably be translated, "I say to you now, presently, in this very night..."

Also, IF this verse means Yahshua made this comment during the actual daylight period from dawn-to-dark, then He was simply saying "I am telling you now, today, Peter, that this very night [the night of Passover, the 14<sup>th</sup> of Abib], before the cock crows..." That is, He made the comment in the day that during the coming night Peter would deny Him three times.

Following is the other point which *does not contradict* the definitions in Genesis 1:5. If the term *semeron* (SEC 4594) must be translated "today," within the light period, then when Yahshua said this to Peter, it was **not yet** night. It could have been late in the day, perhaps even after sundown, before the sunlight had faded enough for the sky to reach the actual darkness of night. It was not night but still light.

So again, even if we use the *KJV*, *Moffatt*, etc. translations of "today, this

"...and the greater light to rule the day" Genesis 1:16 [wordpress.com](http://wordpress.com)



"...and the lesser light to rule the night" Genesis 1:16 [wordpress.com](http://wordpress.com)



continued page 10



# The Nerve of Zacchaeus

It is NOT what you think, and it just might make YOU RICH!

From their “vacation Bible school” days most everyone has heard the jingle about Zacchaeus: “Zacchaeus was a wee little man, a wee little man was he...” He was the nervy little man who scurried up a sycamore tree, above the crowd, to get a better view of Yahshua.

But there is something *more* about Zacchaeus not included in that jingle. There is a surprising and little known fact surrounding him that has mostly gone unnoticed. Yet *this* was apparently his secret to success and riches that **anyone can duplicate**.

Regardless of present circumstances; financial situation, education, training, health or pedigree, Zacchaeus’ secret to accumulating wealth can be applied by virtually *anyone, anywhere!*

This secret is the **REAL NERVE** he had and is recorded in Luke’s account of his encounter with Yahshua. Few have the resolve and nerve to do what he did.

What was the nerve, this driving attitude, of Zacchaeus that gave him the courage to act, to do what few in his day OR ANY AGE have the courage to do; **his secret of financial riches?**

Zacchaeus was a high ranking publican (“chief among the publicans...” Luke 19:2); possibly a *sumagistri*<sup>(1)</sup>. Publicans were revenue collectors for the Roman government. They were capitalists who contracted with the government to collect taxes and customs. As customs agents, they inspected imports and exports, assessed their value, and wrote “tickets” more or less arbitrarily for taxes and duty on these and on all that was bought or sold; bridge money, road money, harbor dues, town dues, etc.<sup>(2)</sup> Encouraged by their superiors and greed, they often overcharged (Luke 3:13), and even brought false charges of smuggling in an effort to gain hush-money.<sup>(3)</sup>

Publicans were under rabbinic ban and often “...regarded as traitors and apostates...” since they dealt with the heathen as well as Jews, and were cohorts of oppressive rulers.<sup>(4)</sup> Their reputation was so tainted and corrupt that Yahshua said one who refused to hear his church brother or the church in matters of disagreements or offenses, was to be

regarded as a *heathen and a publican* (Matt. 18:17). Obviously, being placed in those categories was very serious, resulting in being completely ostracized from the church, and regarded as apostate (an unbeliever)...serious indeed.

This is the background of Zacchaeus, and why Yahshua was accused of eating with sinners

when he dined at Zacchaeus’ home (Luke 19:7). But despite being a publican by profession, Zacchaeus was different.

Notice three major points Luke recorded about Zacchaeus that are seldom, if ever, mentioned. Yet these are recorded for our instruction: (1) He was rich (Luke 19:2), a little known fact, (2) the first thing he mentioned to Yahshua when meeting him apparently for the first time, was the astonishing fact that **he GAVE HALF OF ALL HIS GOODS TO THE POOR!!** (v. 8) and (3) he was not like the rest, for he said, “...and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore him **fourfold**” (v. 8)!

Point (3) tells us he did not get his wealth by extortion or other under-handed dealings for the sake of money, as commonly done by those in his line of work.

Obviously, Zacchaeus did not become rich by unscrupulous and dishonest taxing or duties. **So how did he become rich?**

What else do we know about him that could account for his amassing such wealth that he was considered “**rich**?” The *only other facts* we have to go on which answer that question are that **he gave HALF of ALL HIS GOODS TO THE POOR!** AND, he was honest in his business dealings, generously restoring overcharges fourfold.

But giving to the poor had nothing to do with running an honest business. It was something he did not have to do. It is *very significant* that his generosity to the poor is mentioned here, and mentioned **first!**

**HALF OF ALL HIS GOODS!!!** Seriously, HOW MUCH COURAGE WOULD THAT TAKE? HOW MUCH NERVE? How many of **us** can see ourselves with the courage just to *try* such a thing?

Was Zacchaeus applying a principle that many neglect or refuse to apply? Did giving *generously* (not just giving, but *generously* giving) to the poor work for him? Remember, the **ONLY** facts given about him that could account for his wealth was his generosity to the poor and to those overcharged in business.

Notice this important principle: “He who is gracious to a poor man lends to Yahweh, and HE WILL REPAY HIM for his good deed” (Prv. 19:17). That is a promise...FROM YAHWEH! The word “lends” (SEC 3867) here actually means to “be joined” (BDB; p. 530). This implies a close relationship with Yahweh in which Yahweh promises a repayment for generosity to the poor; similar to a covenant. The amount of the reward for the gracious deed is not specified, but we know Yahweh is Himself *extremely* generous.

Too, “He that hath a bountiful (“generous:” SEC) eye shall be BLESSED; for he giveth of his bread to the POOR” (Prv. 22:9). “BLESSED is he that considereth the POOR...” (Psa. 41:1). “A GOOD man sheweth favor...he hath given to the POOR” (Psa. 112:5, 9). “The generous man will be prosperous...” (Prv. 11:25).

These and countless other scriptures leave no doubt that Zacchaeus was blessed for giving half of ALL he possessed to the poor. He lost nothing, but gained physical wealth, and *eventually had the opportunity for salvation itself* (Luke 19:9).



**Zacchaeus** was known for giving away half of all his goods. [raytownvineyardchurch.org](http://raytownvineyardchurch.org)

Years ago, the *billionaire* Ross Perot ran for President of the United States. In an exclusive interview during the campaign, he admitted that he and his wife decided many years before to *give away half of all they had* and live on the other half. He believed he was blessed for it, and even stated that “Money is highly overrated.” His example shows he obviously rated *giving* very highly...at least equal in importance to money! How many rate giving *that* high?

The rest is history. Mr. Perot became, not a millionaire, *but a billionaire*. He and countless others have *proved* the timeless law that you cannot give something for nothing. It always comes back *multiplied!*

The gateway to riches for Zacchaeus was having the nerve to regularly and promptly give *half* of all he had to the poor. It catapulted him to a financial status only few attain, and most only dream of achieving. How can the dream of financial wealth become a reality? Does it, in fact, come to *anyone who dares* to let go of a significant portion of his possessions, his present level of finances, to help others in need? Is it not true as entertainer Frank Sinatra opined in a song, “Even when the chips are low, there’s still some left for giving?”

There is the true story of a young couple in rural Arkansas with three children barely living from paycheck-to-paycheck. Sometimes borrowing from friends or relatives to get by, in poverty, despair, and seeing no way out of their dilemma, they decided to start *giving away* a significant portion of their meager weekly income. It was hard, at first, seeing the money “leave” when it was so needed for “charity at home.” But what happened because of their generosity? In months, less than a year, the husband landed a high-paying job with good benefits at Chrysler Corporation! Their financial woes became a thing of the past, a distant memory. Did it work for them? Indeed. They broke the back of poverty through their generous giving. Can it work for *you*?

Certainly, there are many ways to amass wealth. But all these are not equally accessible to everyone. Differences in talent, location, background, health, family, and other factors,

#### ***‘Mark 14:30’ continued from page 8***

day,” indicating Yahshua’s comment was apparently made in the day or light period, it shows nothing more than that He was referring to an event yet to take place the following night. He was not defining (or we should say “redefining”) day as including night; an utter impossibility by His own admission (See again Luke 16:17). He was not defining anything, only merely showing a sequence of events.

It must be emphasized that Yahshua ***did NOT say***, “...say to you that this day, even in this night OF THIS DAY....” That was clearly ***not*** what He said, but is often read into His statement in order to try to justify a sunset-to-sunset day.

Consequently, there is nothing in this verse which contradicts the well established Law of Day and Night in Genesis nor justifies in any way a sunset-to-sunset Babylonian day.

Regarding the true Scriptural day, it should be noted the Biblical day continues long after sunset. It does not end at sundown, because the sun’s light continues to “rule” the sky after sunset, dominating starlight.

Astronomers have long used the definition of the end of daylight, the end of what they call “astronomical twilight,” when the center of the sun’s disk is eighteen degrees below the western horizon. This is the time in a moonless sky when stars of sixth magnitude are visible at the zenith (directly overhead). Technically, however, only when the sun’s center is 24 degrees below the western horizon, does the observer’s atmosphere from the zenith to the western horizon, no longer get any sun-

often weigh heavily in the outcome. Not all have the “Midas Touch.” But the “Zacchaeus Principle” is accessible to *virtually anyone*. Everyone has *some* level of wealth that can be shared with the poor on a regular basis.

It must be stressed that giving to the poor, by Zacchaeus’ example and other scriptures, *does not mean* just “giving of our time.” It means giving generously of our material goods, money: “...the half of my ***goods*** I give to the poor...” (Luke 19:8). We do not “own” time. It is not something we possess, not a commodity that can be given away. We *own* material things, goods and money.

That word “generously” requires much more character. It is talking about generously giving away of what we *own* to the poor to receive the promised blessings: “He which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully” (II Cor. 9:6).

Can it possibly be *that* simple...the secret to riches lying quietly within reach of *everyone*; *already* within one’s ability to achieve regardless of present circumstances? All the while people are looking outside themselves for a panacea of happiness and wealth, is not the key to the treasure they seek locked within their own grasp; waiting to be released from *what they already possess*?

Regardless of the financial “prison” in which one may find himself—if he has any money or goods at all, ***HE now*** possesses the key to unlock the door to financial freedom. It does not take beating the long odds of winning the lottery, inventing a “better mousetrap,” or falling into the right business or profession.

It takes the nerve, the courage, to FOLLOW THE LEAD OF ZACCHAEUS; to *believe* and *act* the way he did. Why not consider his “principle?” Try giving generously to the poor and see if you do not generously *receive!*

#### REFERENCES:

- 1 - *Unger’s Bible Dictionary*, p. 899.
- 2 - *Unger’s*, p. 900.
- 3 - *Unger’s*, p. 900; Luke 19:8.
- 4 - *Unger’s*, p. 899.

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light. This is when it is as dark as it gets. It is at this point the sun’s light no longer masks *any* starlight.

Biblically the day continues as stars appear. However, the Biblical perspective differs from astronomers’ definitions. Scripturally, the sun can be 15 degrees or more below the horizon when it is dark enough, to be classified as night (but not 24 degrees). Also, the day can end as much as an hour to an hour and a half after sunset, and last 17.5 hours near the summer solstice depending on latitude (See ICY Booklet *The Scriptural Weekly Sabbath is NOT from Sunset-to-Sunset*, p. 38).

## Conclusion

Mark’s record in chapter fourteen, verse thirty is easily reconciled with the Scriptural requirement that the term Day is only light and Night is darkness, as required by the Law of Genesis.

When considering other translations, grammar, lexicons, etc., we find no contradiction with Yahshua’s statement in Mark and Genesis chapter one. His statement of the immutability of Yahweh’s Law (Luke 16:17) cannot be compromised under any circumstances. This includes the Law of Day and Night. Unfortunately, the use of the Jewish traditional definition of day running from sunset-to-sunset carried by some from Babylon after the captivity, continues to distort the meaning of Yahweh’s clear definitions of Day and Night decreed from creation.

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# The Ten Horns of the Revelation Beast and Radical Islam

PROPHECY SPEAKS: ARE WE LISTENING?

## A. No Private Interpretation

Is Radical Islam's global rise a fulfillment of prophecy? Are we seeing a prelude to the emergence of Revelation's Ten Horns and the Beast which carries them?

It is widely believed the ten horns of this leopard-like-beast (Rev. 13:1; 17:1) do not refer to Muslim countries, but to the EU (European Union) where a ten-nation "United States of Europe" forms. What propels their rise is supposedly a newly resurrected *Holy Roman Empire* under papal rule. The emerging EU, and the Vatican's ecclesiastical and political clout continue to fuel this theory.

But are these teachings Biblical? What *does* the Bible reveal about these infamous ten horns? Are they connected in some way to Muslim extremists?

The correct answers to these questions are found by applying the **absolute** principle of prophecy: "Knowing this FIRST, that NO PROPHECY OF THE SCRIPTURE IS OF ANY PRIVATE INTERPRETATION" (II Pet. 1:20).

The crucial question is "Does *history* or the **Bible** interpret prophecies of the Scriptures?" Peter's statement could not be more certain: Biblical prophecy is unveiled by the Scriptures themselves. Prophecy opens prophecy.

## B. Who or What is the Beast with Seven Heads & Ten Horns?

The Beast of Revelation which rises from the sea having seven heads, ten horns and the names of blasphemy (Rev. 13:16; 17:3) is often identified as a church, a country, a government or a kingdom.

What about the ten horns? Could they be non-EU nations perhaps? Yes, they are as we will see, and within the last decade or so their identity has begun to surface.

But first, Who or What is this strange beast seen com-

"...ten horns? Could they be non-EU nations perhaps? Yes,..."

ing out of the sea?

There is no need to look further than Revelation 17:9-11. Here the **angel** (v. 1, 7) *continues explaining the mystery* of the beast: "...the seven heads...are also seven **kings**..."<sup>(1)</sup>

Next, he *reveals what the beast is*: "...as for the beast that was and is not, he is the eighth and is of the seven..."

(v. 11; *KJV*).

The beast is the *EIGHTH WHAT?*

*The beast must be the eighth KING:* "As for the animal ["beast": *KJV*]...it is an eighth king..." (Rev. 17:11; *Phillips* translation; Lamsa).

The word "king" (SEC 935), means "king" from which "kingdom" (SEC 932) is derived. The word is **king**, *not* kingdom.

Notice. This beast/king definitely has a throne and a kingdom: "...the fifth angel poured out his vial upon the seat (*throne*: SEC 2362) of the beast: and *his kingdom* was full of darkness..." (Rev. 16:10). *So the beast is clearly a king and not a kingdom!* Nothing could be a more certain Biblical *fact*. This beast is **not** a government, but a king.

Though many identify the Revelation Beast with the fourth beast of Daniel 7:7, claiming it must be a kingdom, all the facts do not fit: The fourth beast Daniel saw did not have seven heads, though it had ten horns, and was not described as a leopard as was the third beast (Dan. 7:6)

"The beast is...the eighth King...  
not a government"

and the Beast of Revelation.

Truly there is coming an international figure, a great **king**, who will be *worshipped* globally (Rev. 13:4, 8)! He has *religious* power of epic proportions *enforcing a single one-world religion!*

Notice. "...and ALL the WORLD wondered after the beast...and they WORSHIPPED the beast..." (Rev. 13:3-4).

*This is a world-wide, universal religion*, something which has never happened in history to the present day. This prophecy (Rev. 1:3) is therefore *yet to come!*

This much is certain. The Beast is a king heading a one-world government who will regulate global commerce, while being *deified as the supreme avatar!* (Rev. 13:16-17).

Kingdoms are not worshipped, men are. The worship of kings and rulers has many historical precedents. Roman emperor worship is well known. A statue of Julius Caesar in the temple of Quirinius had an inscription which read, "To the unconquered God." [45 B.C.]<sup>(2)</sup> Pharaohs of Egypt were considered divine. Greek conqueror, Alexander the Great, was worshipped as a deity by Greeks and Ancient Macedonians ("Alexander the Great," *History Today* 54:1). The list of deifications is virtually endless. So it is hardly surprising to find the Beast depicted in a similar way.

The Beast/King is also a formidable political and mili-





**The Beast has Ten Horns** (Rev. 17:3, 12). The Ten Horns are Ten Kings, who destroy Babylon (v. 16). Bible Prophecy shows the following nations (The Ten Horns) destroy Babylon: Ararat, Minni, Ashchenaz and the Medes. (Jer. 51:27-28). *Illustration by C. Winston Taylor*<sup>(6)</sup>

tary leader (“Who is able to make war with him?” Rev. 13:4) who uses *great oratory*—persuasive, maybe charming [“...a mouth speaking great things...” v. 5].

But never forget the Bible calls him a **BEAST!** His very nature, the man behind the persona, is *beast-like*, ferocious, merciless, empowered by Satan himself (Rev. 13:2), deceitful (Rev. 12:9), heads a totalitarian regime (“...**no man** might buy or sell” Rev. 13:16-17), and a warmonger (makes war with the two witnesses: Rev. 11:7; with the saints: Rev. 13:7).

### TRUE Identity of the TEN HORNS REVEALED!!

## A. WHAT are they?

Now, this ferocious King, often referred to as the “Antichrist,” the “Man of Sin,” or “Son of Perdition” (II Thess. 2:3), has *ten horns*.

But what, specifically, is *their* purpose? A beast with horns uses those horns as weapons of battle. They are used to push and pierce the enemy: “...if the ox were wont to push with his horn...(Ex. 21:29)...he have gored (v. 31).”

In prophecy animals with horns **push**: “...a ram...had two horns...one higher than the other...I saw the ram *pushing*” (Dan. 8:3-4), and those horns can be broken in battle: “...the great horn was broken...” (Dan. 8:8). The word “horn” (SEC 7161) is from a primitive root (SEC 7160) meaning “to push or gore...” (SEC).

Clearly, *the ten horns are WEAPONS of war!* The beast pushes, gores with them: “And these [ten horns; v. 12] **make WAR...**” (Rev. 17:14). “...and shall GIVE THEIR POWER AND STRENGTH UNTO THE BEAST” (Rev. 17:13). The horns are the Beast’s juggernaut, his war machine.

But are they *ten-nations* of the EU, a “United States of Europe?” What? The EU is already 27 nations strong with several candidate countries to join later—*far more than TEN!* But will ten EU members suddenly form the prophetic ten-horn juggernaut or is the Bible referring to

nations outside the EU? The Bible answers this precisely. More on that later.

So *what* else are the ten horns besides weapons of war? They are ten **kings**: “And the ten horns which thou sawest are **ten kings...**” (Rev. 17:12). **KINGS!** They form a coalition, a ten-kling confederation, “These have ONE mind...” (Rev. 17:13).

Now we see. The Beast/King, **through persuasive oratory and force of personality, forges an alliance of ten kings to do his bidding!!**

## B. WHO are they?

### i. First Fact

The real mystery, however, surrounding the ten horns is their national identity. We know they are kings, that is easy enough to see, but *who* are they, and *where* are they located? Tougher questions.

Remember Peter’s “no private interpretation” rule prohibits using *secular history*, external events, places or persons to identify them.

The answers combine Revelation with Jeremiah, but where do we start?

*First, we need this crucial fact. The ten horns hate and destroy a woman riding this Beast:* “...and I saw a woman sit upon a...beast...having seven heads and ten horns...” (Rev. 17:3; same beast as Rev. 13). She is described as “the mother of harlots” (Rev. 17:5), a whore (v. 1). “And the **ten horns** which thou sawest upon the beast, these **shall hate the whore, and shall make her desolate** and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire” (Rev. 17:16; *KJV*).

Other translations use “and” instead of “upon” in this verse (“...thou sawest...*and* the beast...”: *RSV, NAS, NJ, GNB, Moffatt, Vulgate, GIB* [Appendix], *Concordant NT*, etc.).

The three most ancient Greek manuscripts clearly use “and,” not “upon;” indicating *both* the ten horns and the beast hate the whore.

Keep in mind the horns on a beast are its instruments of war. Apparently the beast in his wrath uses his instruments of war, **the ten horns, who also hate her, to execute his vengeance on the whore.**

Revelation 17:16-17 indicates as much by using “their” twice in verse 17, [“...put in *their* heart...give *their* kingdom **to the beast...**” v. 17]. “Their” must be referring to the ten horns of verse 16, so *they* destroy her.

### ii. Second Fact: Who and What is the Whore?

Next, **who** is the whore of this prophecy (Rev. 17:16) that is burned with fire? You have surely read time and again she is the Catholic Church, Vatican City or Rome! But is that true?

**We must know! For until we know her NAME, the identity of the ten horns is hidden and sealed.**

The Bible plainly tells us her name: “And upon her forehead was a **NAME** written, **MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH...**” (Rev. 17:5; *KJV*).

The harlot’s **NAME** is **BABYLON the GREAT**. Nothing could be plainer. But there is something hidden here, a mystery. Obviously, her *name* is not the mystery.

The *real* mystery is *what* the woman represents! Is she a church, a government? Many say this infamous mother

of harlots must be a church citing II Corinthians.11:2, Revelation 19:7, and Ephesians 5:22-27.

The angel solves this mystery: "...the woman which thou sawest is that **great city**, which reigneth over the kings of the earth." (Rev. 17:18).

Babylon the Great is a CITY! Rather than turn to *private interpretations*, (as many do) naming her as New York City, Rome, the Roman Catholic Church, the papacy, the Roman Empire, Vatican City, etc., we *must use the plain facts of Scripture. **The whore is the CITY OF BABYLON!***

Look at other verses *using the same terminology* verifying this name: "...**Babylon the Great** is fallen...(Rev. 18:2; Isa. 21:9; recall her name, Rev. 17:5: "...BABYLON THE GREAT..."). "...that **great city** *Babylon* that mighty **city**...(ch. 18, v. 10). "...that **great city** *Babylon*...(v. 21). Also: "*Babylon* is fallen...that **great city**..." (Rev. 14:9; see also Jer. 51:8).

How many times does it have to be stated to be believed?

Why all this "grilling" about *what* the whore represents? Because until we *know*, the national identity of the

"The whore is the City of Babylon"

ten horns is sealed...forever!

Continuing. The whore, is burned, "...and burn her with fire.." (Rev. 17:16; Gen. 38:24). Notice the *fate of Babylon*: "...they shall see the smoke of her [Babylon: verse 2] burning." (Rev. 18:9).

Further, Babylon is elsewhere connected with harlotry: "And the *kings of the earth* who committed fornication... with her [Babylon, see v. 2]..." (Rev. 18:3, 9).

Notice this amazing fact. John saw her sitting on many waters (Rev. 17:1). *This same expression describes Babylon in another prophecy*: "O thou [Babylon, Jer. 51:1, 7, 11-12] that dwellest upon many waters..." (v. 13).

AND WHAT ARE THESE WATERS? "The waters which you sawest where the whore sitteth, are *peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.*" (Rev. 17:16).

How clear! The city of Babylon sits on nations of different languages, which must include kings of different nationalities.

Notice too, what Isaiah recorded: "...for thou [Babylon, v. 1; Moffatt, Tanakh] shalt no more be called, [what?] **THE LADY OF KINGDOMS**" (Isa. 47:4).

AND: "...for she [Babylon, v. 2] saith...I **SIT** a **QUEEN**..." (Rev. 18:7). A queen rules.

The conclusion is airtight: **the Woman who rides the Beast is the CITY OF BABYLON.**

But make no mistake. She is the **Babylon of the Bible**: Babylon, Iraq! Hundreds of references including numerous prophecies confirm the Babylon of Scripture is strictly Babylon, Iraq (formerly Mesopotamia). Listed 291 times, (second only to Jerusalem) Babylon was the capital of Babylonia and later of the Chaldean empire. (See ICY's booklet, *The Second Coming of Babylon*). Remember the *Bible* must explain who and what!

The woman who rides the beast is not the Roman Catholic Church, the papacy, Vatican City, New York City,

Rome, Jerusalem, etc. She is the physical city of Babylon, Iraq located about sixty miles south of Baghdad, Iraq. We just have to accept what the Bible says.

### a. What About "The Seven Hills" (Rev. 17:9)?

Some claim Babylon, Iraq cannot be the Revelation whore, because it is not built on seven actual hills or mountains unlike the seven hills on which Rome, Italy stands. Is this a make-or-break fact identifying the Babylon of Revelation? What else is recorded about the seven hills: "...they are also seven **KINGS**" (Rev. 17:10; RSV). This is hardly ever mentioned.

But note this. The seven mountains **NOR** the seven kings are the crucial identifying clues. Her identity has already been proven without the "hills" or the "kings."

She is the city of Babylon, Iraq. Topography alone is not enough. The Scriptures must name her.

Besides, the "seven hills of Rome" are not unique anyway. And Vatican City is not built on seven hills. "Vatican City is not built on seven hills, but only one: Vatican Hill, which is *not* one of the seven upon which ancient Rome was built. Those hills are on the east side of the Tiber river; Vatican Hill is on the west."<sup>(3)</sup>

Those are the facts. Here is another fact. There are at least *thirteen cities built on seven hills* from England to Ecuador (home of "The Rome of the Andes"), from *Jerusalem* (Yes, Jerusalem), to remarkably-Austin, Texas, USA! (For details request "The Woman Sitting on Seven Hills" at info@icyahweh.org).

Are *all* of these Babylon? Of these thirteen, some would prefer one over another. No matter. We must let the Bible decide. It chooses Babylon, Iraq.

### iii. Final Clue: Mystery Solved

Knowing the ten horns hate and destroy Babylon, Iraq, an additional prophecy supplies the final clue, solving the mystery of their national identity.

That decisive clue is *who destroys Babylon*. Remember, we **MUST** let the BIBLE tell us!

And it does.

Remember this is a *prophecy*, and prophecies are not dual or linear. They are cyclic...they *repeat* until their *final* fulfillment. This is a much overlooked fact of prophecy. The Biblical Holy Days are "...shadows of things to come..." (Col. 2:16-17) prophetic keys, **and they repeat!** This is a glaring clue that the events they foreshadow *also repeat*.

Notice this great prophecy. "Make bright the arrows; gather the shields: Yahweh ["the LORD"; KJV] hath raised up the spirit of the **KINGS OF THE MEDES**: for His device **against Babylon to destroy it...**" (Jer. 51:11).

"...prepare the nations against her [**Babylon**, Jer. 51:1, 7, 11, 24, 31], call together against her the **KINGDOMS OF ARARAT, MINNI, AND ASHCENAZ...** prepare against her the nations with the **KINGS OF THE MEDES...** (Jer. 51:27-28)...to make the land of Babylon a desolation...(v. 29)."

Recall Revelation 17:16: "...the ten horns...shall make her [Babylon] desolate..." Prophecy opens prophecy.

Here is the Bible's direct answer; no private interpretation, no references to a resurrected Holy Roman Empire, no papal domination of kings, no mysterious Order of The



Knights Templar, no other Roman Catholic underpinnings, no endless string of dynasties, etc. Just plain Scripture. **Ten kings, the TEN HORNS, from the Medes, Minni, Ararat, and Ashkenaz will wreak a FINAL destruction on Babylon.**

True, Babylon has been attacked *many times* throughout its history, **repeatedly**, but never *totally* destroyed. (See, *The Second Coming of Babylon*, ICY). The ten horns deal the final blow.

Do not forget Revelation *prophecies* "...things which must shortly come to pass...words of...prophecy..." (Rev. 1:1, 3). This includes the coming **end-time great city of Babylon**, and her sudden fall, but was written about **90 A.D.** while Babylon lay mostly in ruins! So these are events yet to happen! *Babylon must, therefore, rise again!*

## The Ten-Horn Nations Today

Research shows the modern nations of Jeremiah's prophecy are: **TURKEY-PARTS OF ARMENIA** (Ararat); **IRAN- AZERBAIJAN** (Minni, Media), and for Ashkenaz **WESTERN and NORTHERN ARMENIA-NORTHWEST IRAN- GEORGIA**. See map below (*Personal Map Insert*, SON Light Publishers).

**These are the nations from whom the Biblical Ten Horns of the Beast emerge.** A coalition of **TEN-KINGS** ("these have *one mind*" Rev. 17:13) will arise from these countries! This is the *Bible's stunning answer* to this long-standing mystery of the Ten-Horn nations. (For research details request "Ten Horns Statistics" at [info@icyahweh.org](mailto:info@icyahweh.org)).

Surely, many will adamantly resist the Bible's own interpretation rather than their own, but Bible prophecy

shows in the last days it is *these* Ten-Horn nations that attack Babylon of Chaldea (Mesopotamia or modern Iraq). This excludes Iraq (97 percent Muslim) where Babylon is located, as one of the ten horns, unless its present boundaries, established in the 1920s, do not exclude Ashkenaz, Ararat, Minni or Media.

But is there another Ten-Horn nation? During and since WWII, many have staunchly advocated a return to world dominance by Germany as one of the ten horns. Medieval Jews understood Ashkenaz to be the **Teutons (German race)**. Even today many claim the Hebrew term for Germany is Ashkenaz. So is Germany one of the Ten-Horns?

Possibly. However, the physical features of the German people (blue/green-eyed, blond hair) living in modern Germany are quite different from those of modern Armenia, Turkey, Georgia and northern Iran; nations where the Ashkenazi are known to have migrated. Also, history seems to indicate the ancestors of the Germanic peoples are not from these areas the Ashkenazi occupied.

It appears likely later descendents of Ashkenaz migrated to established German settlements, thus associating the Ashkenazi with Germans. Ashkenazi Hebrew, or German Hebrew, so far as we know, was originated by Jews of Central and Eastern Europe; not by Germans.

The nazi ending of Ashkenazi persists (the "i" indicates a member of the people of Ashkenaz, i.e. an Ashkenazi) to the present in a variety of applications.

For example, The National-Socialist German Worker's Party prior to and during WWII adopted the title "Nazi Party." "Nazi" is an abbreviation of the German pronunciation of "National-Socialist." Natsjo'nalsozialistische (natsjo'na:lzotsia). Nazi for short, a term still heard today.<sup>(4)</sup> (For other uses of the "nazi" ending request "Ten Horns Statistics" at [info@icyahweh.org](mailto:info@icyahweh.org)).

It certainly is curious the worker's party chose this title, Nazi. Was the presence of "Ashkenazi" Jews, or German-Jews, and the extensive use of the term "Nazi" merely a quirk of history? Or did the descendents of Ashkenaz (Gen. 10:1-3; Jer. 51:27-28) influence the Nazis in some way? Some who have lived and traveled in modern Germany report no usage of the term "Ashkenazi."

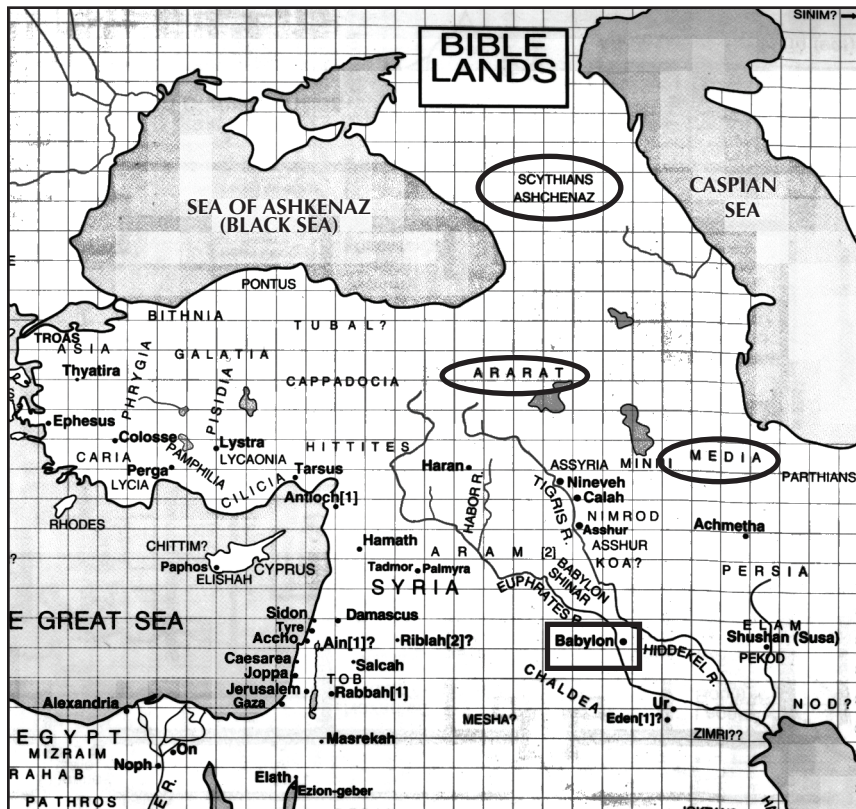
Should we see an alliance of Germany with the ten-horn nations of prophecy mentioned earlier, its status as as one of them will be easier to decide.

## Radical Islam Rising

Back to the original questions: Is Radical Islam's global rise a fulfillment of prophecy? Are we seeing a prelude to the emergence of Revelation's Ten Horns and the Beast which carries them?

Armed with Biblical facts, the answers are becoming clear. We know the countries to watch in gauging the *correct* answer.

First, look at the demographics of the Ten-Horn nations. They comprise vast populations of Muslims; some 153,564,000 compared to their Orthodox Christian population of around 6,662,000 from Armenia



This map shows the nations Ararat, Media, Ashkenaz and Babylon, Iraq. These are the nations from whom the Biblical Ten Horns of the Beast emerge. SON Light Publishers



and Georgia.<sup>6</sup> This appears to refer primarily to Eastern Orthodox rather than Roman Catholicism, but time will tell. Georgia and Armenia are small compared to the others, but they will be players, nonetheless. Keep an eye on them, too.

*This means 95.7 percent of the Ten Horn population is Muslim!*

Recall the Ten-Horns are weapons of the Beast of Revelation; his ferocious deadly weapons; pushing, goring,

## "Yahshua defeats...Radical Islam!"

savagely tearing. So this is the behavior we expect from the Ten Horns nations.

Now, what are many Ten Horn nations doing *today* right before our very eyes on U-Tube or news media honest enough to report it? Answer: spreading terrorism—a “holy war,” increasing calls for Islamic Jihad, declaring war against freedom-loving peoples of the world! They are “goring,” pushing, warlike.

What is Muslim Iran exporting? Peace? Hardly. Terrorism through Hezbollah and other front organizations. What is Radical Islam’s ideology, promoted under the guise of religion? Jihad, death to all non-Muslims (unbelievers, the infidels), spreading fear and intimidation.

*These are exactly the actions expected from the Ten-Horns.* Calls for a one-world religion of submission to a non-Biblically-based religion is just what is prophesied of the Beast of Revelation (Rev. 13:4, 7, 16-17; Jer. 51:27-28). Radical Islam, the Muslim extremists, fits the ten horns’ Biblical profile to near perfection.

Where do these radical jihadists get their ideas? What is the source of their foment of hate and murder? Some believe the source is Islam’s holy book, the Quran.

The truth is, however, that hate, lying, murderous radicalism, human degradation of all kinds come from only two sources: the human heart and the Adversary the Devil: “...the Devil...He was a murderer from the beginning...he is a liar and the father of it” (John 8:44). *It is He who deceives the whole world!* (Rev. 12:9).

Too, human nature is not without fault: “The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?” (Jer. 17:9). Self deception is the worst kind; subtle. Each has a choice to act or not to act. To hate or love. To help or harm. We all decide.

The Dragon, Satan the Devil, *empowers* the Beast and the Ten Horns for his evil purposes to deceive and dominate: “...and the Dragon [the Devil: Rev. 12:9] gave him [the beast, v. 1] his power and his seat [throne] and great authority” (Rev. 13:2).

But remember, the Beast eventually uses ALL the ten horns, both Muslim extremists **and Orthodox Christian extremists** [do not forget Armenia and Georgia], to overcome the saints (Rev. 13:7), those obeying Yahweh’s Law, and kill Yahweh’s two witnesses (Rev. 11:11).

Finally, fresh off numerous victories-conquerors, confident, cocky, **ALL ten horns make war against Yahshua Himself** (Rev. 14:14). Huge mistake; their fatal and final gigantic military blunder! Utterly defeated, their

carcasses are given to the fowls of heaven (Rev. 19:17-18). They are obviously Anti-Christ, Anti-Messiah, for which they will pay...with their own blood.

The stunning, nearly unbelievable, indication from prophecy that Orthodox Christians will also engage in this battle against Yahshua, the King of Kings is very telling. How is that possible? Will they not know Him, the One they profess to represent? Obviously deceived, determined and fierce, they too join this titanic fight-to-the-death.

In a single decisive blow, Yahshua defeats the whole spectrum of religious extremists from Radical Islam to a deceived Orthodox Christianity! A new era is born in this victory.

The questions asked earlier can now be answered with a sobering, “Yes!” Disturbing, surprising, even shocking, these prophecies are sure. They are certain.

But are we now seeing just the “tips of the horns?” AND if the horns are beginning to reveal themselves, CAN THE BEAST ON WHICH THEY GROW BE FAR BEHIND?

## Conclusion

The growing menace of Radical Islam caught the world off guard almost before it was too late. The 9/11 attack jolted the US and the world from slumber to see the festering campaign of hate at the core of Radical Islamic Jihadists. We now realize the threat lies *from within* as well.

A generation of unprecedented prosperity had blinded our sensitivities to the realities of the monster in our midst. Modern religion has done little either, to help us identify the real threat; to pinpoint the *Ten-Horn nations*. Constantly looking in the wrong direction toward the EU and Roman Catholicism, not to the Bible itself, we have been blind-sided by vicious radical Muslim Jihadists bent on the annihilation of free societies.

The Ten Horns of Islam and some form of Christian Orthodoxy, plus the Beast which carries them will be the heart-stopping issues of this generation. Hands down, this will be a far greater threat to freedom than the national-socialist regime of a previous generation. This time it is not just Europe’s problem, but a global intifada against freedom and peace loving people. This time *world* freedom will be crushed...if we do not repent of breaking Yahweh’s Law!

The Ten-Horns prophecy speaks loud and clear. But it will take some time, years, for its completion. The horns are growing; not fully formed. At least now we know where to look.

The good news is there is still time to repent as nations, as families, as individuals. Will we?

The Messiah, Yahshua, said long ago, “...Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall He find faith on the Earth? (Luke 18:8). Will He? Will we have faith based on Bible **truth**, the “...faith once delivered...” (Jude 3), or a false faith? The difference is huge.

“Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man” (Luke 21:36).

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