



A preserved section of the Berlin Wall, a border smitten by froglike spirits (Ex. 8:2; Rev. 16:13).
Source: N.B.

cal and religious institutions, associated with the old régimes.

The breaking down of barriers between peoples enables them to come together. This is seen in the way in which the people came together at Babel: "And the LORD said, Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do: and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do" (Gen. 11:6). The purpose of the "unclean spirits like frogs" is to bring the nations together

as one again: "For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth unto the **kings of the earth** and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty" (Rev. 16:14).

Just as the French nation was unified by the original going forth of the frogs, so the nations of the world will come together against Christ as a result of the humanistic and socialist teachings emanating from **Europe**, the **papacy** and **Russia**. (Refs. 10, 28)

G

Gaza Strip

The Gaza Strip is a piece of land on the coast of the **Mediterranean** adjacent to the land of **Israel** (see map under **Palestine**). Under the Declaration of Principles signed in 1993, **Israel** agreed to hand over certain powers and responsibilities to the Palestinian Authority in relation to the Gaza

Strip. Talks aimed at finalising the status of Gaza began in 1999 but were disrupted by the intifada that broke out in 2000. Permanent status of the Gaza Strip has yet to be established. There are over 1.1 million people in the Gaza Strip, but less than 7,000 of these are **Jews**.

In prophecy the area corresponding to the Gaza Strip is referred to by the term "coasts of

Palestine [or **Philistia**]” (Joel 3:4). The prophecy of Joel shows that this area will be against **Israel** at the time of the return of Christ: “Yea, and what have ye to do with Me, O **Tyre**, and **Zidon**, and all the coasts of **Palestine**? will ye render Me a recompence? and if ye recompense Me, swiftly and speedily will I return your recompence upon your own head; because ye have taken My silver and My gold, and have carried into your temples My goodly pleasant things: the children also of **Judah** and the children of **Jerusalem** have ye sold unto the Grecians, that ye might remove them far from their border” (vv. 4-6). Psalm 83 lists “the Philistines” (v. 7) as one of the enemies of **Israel** at the time of the end. ([Ref. 14](#))

- **1917** Part of British Mandate of **Palestine**
- **1948** **Egypt** takes control
- **1956/57** Brief Israeli occupation
- **1967** Occupied by **Israel**
- **1987** Intifada launched
- **1993** Declaration of Principles—**Israel** and the PLO sign self-rule accord
- **1994** Israeli forces complete their withdrawal
- **2000** Second intifada launched.

Germany

Germany has the largest economy within **Europe** and the highest population. Following the end of the Second World War the country was divided into two states, the eastern Communist German Democratic Republic and the western Federal Republic of Germany. The country was unified in 1990 following the collapse of Communism and the Berlin Wall.

The area covered by Germany was largely beyond the borders of the Roman Empire. At the time the book of Revelation was written it was a mostly unknown area inhabited by various tribes. In Revelation 17 this area is represented by the Greek word *abussos*, translated in the AV as ‘bottomless pit’ but perhaps better rendered ‘abyss’. Verse 8 says: “The **beast** that thou sawest was, and is not; and shall ascend out of the bottomless pit, and go into perdition: and they that dwell on the earth shall wonder, whose names were not written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, when they behold the **beast** that was, and is not, and yet is”. The great European power symbolised by the **beast of the abyss**, which will be in existence at the time of the end, will have its origins in the uncharted abyss of John’s day, modern Germany.

The Germanic **beast of the abyss** will seek to emulate the Holy Roman Empire, symbolised by the **beast** of the earth in Revelation 13. This empire came to an end through the judgements symbolised by the vials in Revelation 16. However, despite the revolutionary terrors unleashed by the French Revolution and Napoleon, there was no true repentance by those who occupied “the seat of the **beast**”, who “blasphemed the God of heaven because of their pains and their sores, and repented not of their deeds” (vv. 10,11). This lack of repentance has been manifest in the way Germany has tried more than once to re-establish the empire. Firstly there was the Germanic Empire of 1871-1918, and then the Reich or Empire of Hitler, called by him the Third Reich, with the Holy Roman Empire having been the ‘First Reich’.

As a European nation, Germany’s ancestry should be traced to Japheth (Gen. 10:2). It is often associated with Japheth’s son **Magog**, but in fact it is more accurate to link it with **Gomer**. Either way, Germany is shown by Ezekiel 38 to be a key nation in the Gogian invasion: “Son of man, set thy face against **Gog**, the land of **Magog**, the chief prince of **Meshech** and **Tubal** . . . **Gomer**, and all his bands; the house of **Togarmah** of the north quarters, and all his bands: and many people with thee” (vv. 2,6). ([Refs. 5, 10](#))

- **1871** Prussian King William I crowned emperor of new German Reich at Versailles
- **1914-18** First World War
- **1939-45** Second World War
- **1949** Federal Republic of Germany and German Democratic Republic formed
- **1990** Unification.

Gog

Gog is the name of the leader of the invasion by the land of **Magog** against **Israel**: “Son of man, set thy face toward Gog, of the land of **Magog**, the prince of **Rosh**, **Meshech**, and **Tubal**, and prophesy against him” (Ezek. 38:2, RV).

The name **Magog** refers to the Scythians. Assyrian records from the time of Ashurbanipal mention two Scythian chieftains, Sharati and Parihia, who were said to be sons of a man called Gagi. It seems that Gagi was a family name of some of the rulers of the Scythians, and that the name Gog is used in Ezekiel in order to make a parallel with these Scythian rulers. The grandson of Gagi, Madyes, led the Scythians in an invasion of **Israel**. This was prophesied in

Zephaniah 2:4,5. This invasion was a foreshadowing of the latter-day invasion by Gog.

The name had previously been used of an actual person belonging to the tribe of Reuben: "the sons, I say, of Reuben the firstborn of **Israel** were, Hanoch, and Pallu, Hezron, and Carmi. The sons of Joel; Shemaiah his son, Gog his son, Shimei his son" (1 Chron. 5:3,4). Of the Reubenites it is written: "Reuben, thou art my firstborn, my might, and the beginning of my strength, the excellency of dignity, and the excellency of power: unstable as water, thou shalt not excel; because thou wentest up to thy father's bed; then defiledst thou it: he went up to my couch" (Gen. 49:3,4). Reuben had the privileges of being the first-born but he lost them due to his wickedness. Gog will also seek to exalt himself through his own might, strength and excellency, but will not prevail: "And it shall come to pass in that day, that I will give unto Gog a place there of graves in **Israel**, the valley of the passengers on the east of the sea: and it shall stop the noses of the passengers: and there shall they bury Gog and all his multitude: and they shall call it The valley of Hamon-gog" (Ezek. 39:11). ([Refs. 3, 7, 15, 28](#))

Gomer

Gomer was one of the sons of Japheth (Gen. 10:2). Josephus states that "Gomer founded those whom the Greeks now call Galatians, but were then called Gomerites" (*Antiquities of the Jews*, Book I, VI, 1). The Galatians were a people who were based in Central and Western **Europe**. They are otherwise known as the Celts or Gauls. In 278 B.C. a group of these people entered Anatolia, a part of modern **Turkey**, and hence the name Galatia was given to this area. Paul's letter to the Galatians was directed to ecclesias in this area. However, Western Europe, including Gaul (modern **France**), was the primary homeland of these people (see map under **Magog**). Gomer is one of the peoples who will be with **Gog** when he invades **Israel** (Ezek. 38:6). ([Refs. 3, 28](#))

Greece

Modern Greece can be traced back to its independence gained from the Ottoman Empire in 1829. It later gained more territory from **Turkey** during the Russo-Turkish War (1877-8) and the Balkan Wars (1912-13). It is a parliamentary republic and is a member of the **European Union**.

Most of its population belongs to the Greek Orthodox Church.

In the Old Testament the Hebrew word rendered 'Greece' or 'Grecia' is **Javan**. In Joel 3, **Tyre**, **Zidon** and the coasts of **Palestine** are spoken of in relation to the way they sold the **Jews** as slaves to the Greeks: "the children also of **Judah** and the children of **Jerusalem** have ye sold unto the Grecians, that ye might remove them far from their border" (v. 6). This had a fulfilment when the **Jews** were scattered during the invasion by the Babylonians. The context of the prophecy, however, is the time of the end, and it would seem that, when the Gogian invasion takes place, the **Jews** will be scattered, and "the Grecians" will be involved in this process. As with other European nations, Greece will be on the side of the Russian invader and will be antagonistic towards **Israel**.

In Daniel 11 the **king of the north** and **king of the south** are shown to derive from the breaking up of the Greek Empire after the death of Alexander. Verse 40 shows that there will be a latter-day **king of the north** and **king of the south**. In Zechariah 6:1 these two powers are symbolised by two **mountains of brass**, the metal used to represent Greece in the **image** of Nebuchadnezzar's dream in Daniel 2. The **king of the north**, **Gog** in Ezekiel 38, will be a latter-day brass mountain harking back to the aftermath of the Greek Empire of old.

Thus, where Greece is singled out for specific mention in prophecy, it can relate not just to Greece but also to the Gogian force as a whole. For example, in Zechariah 9 it states: "Turn you to the strong hold, ye prisoners of hope: even to day do I declare that I will render double unto thee; when I have bent **Judah** for Me, filled the bow with **Ephraim**, and raised up thy sons, O **Zion**, against thy sons, O Greece, and made thee as the sword of a mighty man" (vv. 12,13). Zechariah 9 begins by speaking of the invasion of **Israel** by Alexander the Great (vv. 1-8). In verse 13 Greece is mentioned, not simply because of the way Greece will be against **Israel** at the time of the end, but because it brings to mind the Greek invasion under Alexander the Great. As such, when **Gog** invades it will be taking on the role of the Greek invader of old.

Those **Jews** who are taken to Greece, both the country itself and the latter-day Gogian Greek Empire, will be brought back to **Israel** once Christ is King: "I will send those that escape of them unto the nations, to **Tarshish**, Pul, and Lud, that

draw the bow, to **Tubal**, and **Javan** [Greece], to the isles afar off, that have not heard My fame, neither have seen My glory; and they shall declare My glory among the Gentiles. And they shall bring all your brethren for an offering unto the LORD out of all nations upon horses, and in chariots, and in litters, and upon mules, and upon swift beasts, to My holy **mountain Jerusalem**, saith the LORD, as the children of **Israel** bring an offering in a clean vessel into the house of the LORD" (Isa. 66:19,20).

H

Heads, seven

In Scripture the head can represent the king or kingship of a country. For example, Saul was head over **Israel**: "And Samuel said, When thou wast little in thine own sight, wast thou not made the head of the tribes of **Israel**, and the LORD anointed thee king over **Israel**?" (1 Sam. 15:17). In Isaiah 7, Rezin the king of Syria is described as "the head of **Damascus**" (v. 8) and Pekah the king of **Israel** was "the head of Samaria" (v. 9).

In Revelation 17:3 the **beast of the abyss** is depicted with "seven heads". These heads are interpreted as follows: "The seven heads are seven **mountains**, on which the woman sitteth" (v. 9). The woman is **Rome** (v. 18), and so the seven **mountains** relate to the seven hills of **Rome**. However, there is more to the seven heads than representing the seven hills of **Rome**. As in the Old Testament, they also represent kings: "And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, and the other is not yet come; and when he cometh, he must continue a short space. And the **beast** that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition" (vv. 10,11).

The heads, or kings, represent different forms of government which **Rome** experienced. The sixth head, the head which at the time of John could be said to be the one which "is", was the imperial form of government. This sixth head would become "wounded to death" (13:3) when the Goths sacked **Rome**. The Gothic rule of **Rome** was the seventh head, but they were overthrown by Justinian, emperor of **Constantinople** in the sixth century. Justinian supported the Bishop of **Rome**, and an imperial form of government in **Rome** was revived but with a religious over-

- **1829** Achieved independence from Turkish rule
- **1864** Ionian Islands ceded to Greece by Great Britain
- **1946** Monarchy restored
- **1952** Joins NATO
- **1967** Military coup
- **1974** Pro-Greek coup d'état in **Cyprus** leading to the downfall of the military régime in Greece and the emergence of democracy
- **1981** Joined the EC.

tone. This was, in a sense, an eighth head, but it was of the seven, that is, it was a new version of the sixth imperial head.

In Revelation 17 this pattern is being used to depict events at the time of the end. In verse 11 the eighth head, which is really a new version of the sixth head, is now spoken of as the **beast** itself: "And the **beast** that was, and is not, even he is the eighth, and is of the seven, and goeth into perdition". At the time of the end there will be a **beast** that is reminiscent of the revived sixth head in the days of Justinian. We can expect a religious power based in **Rome** which relies on support from the **dragon** power in the East. That is to say, we can expect Roman Catholic **Europe** to be supported by the military power of **Russia** in the East as it invades south and occupies **Istanbul**, former **Constantinople**. (Refs. 10, 26)

Heavens

The heavens are used in Scripture to signify the place of political rulership. This can be shown by comparing two verses in Isaiah 1. In verse 2 it is written: "Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth: for the LORD hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against Me". In verse 10 the words "heavens" and "earth" are replaced with the words "rulers" and "people" respectively: "Hear the word of the LORD, ye rulers of Sodom; give ear unto the law of our God, ye people of Gomorrah". Similarly, in Isaiah 14 the fall of the king of **Babylon** is described as the fall of the planet Venus (v. 12).

At the time of the end the Lord Jesus Christ said that "the powers of heaven shall be shaken" (Lk. 21:26). This is speaking of the way world