## **Astonishing SIGN for modern times!**

## The SIGN of the SEVENTH KING-KINGDOM-BEAST

Do you perhaps not have any knowledge of it?

#### SEVEN KINGS-KINGDOMS-BEASTS

#### Five have fallen; one is, and the other has not yet come.

## The "OTHER" is the SEVENTH.

"The seven heads... are... seven kings. Five of whom have fallen, one is, the other has not yet come, and when he comes he must remain only a little while." Revelation 17:9-10



Moscow, Russia

"Five of whom have fallen ... " The five that fell are::

- 1. Sumeria-Babylon
- 2. Egypt
- 3. Syria
- 4. Medo-persia
- 5. Greece

*"One is..."* The **Roman Empire** is the **sixth king** that *"is,"* being the kingdom that was in power when the prophecies of Revelation were revealed at the end of the first century. The verb *"is"* does not refer to our time (the 21st century), but to that "present time" when the apostle John received the prophecies and visions of Revelation. Correctly placing the apostle's affirmation on the time line is absolutely essential for the right application of the prophecy.

*"...the other has not yet come."* This one that had not yet come when John wrote Revelation is the "**seventh king**." In the prophetic language of the Bible, "king" may stand for "kingdom," and in the rhetorical language of Revelation "beast" symbolizes "kingdom" in numerous passages.

When does the seventh king make his appearance on the world stage?

The seventh king had not yet come when the apostle John received the visions of Revelation during the last decade of the First Century of the Christian Age, for we are informed that *"the other,"* that is, the seventh, *"has not yet come."* 

In the sequence of the kingdoms, the **sixth king-kingdom is the Roman Empire**. It would continue as a powerful kingdom until 1555 a. d., and in a debilitated state until 1806 a. d.

#### History perverted and the errors propagated by preachers, teachers and writers.

The widespread belief, stated as a fact, that the Roman Empire, as such, ended in 476 a. d., **is not a fact at all**, and is highly misleading. No less than the great historian **Edward Gibbons** affirms the above dates for the Roman Empire. His *"History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire"* takes the reader up to the year 1555 a. d. **Will and Ariel Durant**, in their Pulitzer Prize winning, eleven volume work: *"The Story of Civilization,"* provide similar documentation.

**Flavius Odoacer** was not an idolatrous pagan German who tore the western part of the Roman Empire totally away from the eastern part, but an Arian Christian who considered himself a Roman and subject to the Roman emperor Zeno (476-491 a. d.), in Constantinople. He kept *"the administration of Italy in his own hands while recognizing the overlordship of the Eastern emperor. Odoacer introduced few important changes into the administrative system of Italy. He had the support of the Senate at Rome."* (Encyclopedia Britannica. Article: Odoacer.)

The Romans of the eastern part of the empire never identified themselves as "Byzantines," nor their culture as "Byzantine." Neither their part of the Roman Empire as the "Byzantine Empire." They continued to be Romans, and their dominions, the Roman Empire.

The term "Byzantine Empire" is purely an invention of historians from the 16<sup>th</sup> century on. "The first use of the term 'Byzantine' to label the later years of the Roman Empire was in 1557, when the German historian Hieronymus Wolf published his work Corpus Historiæ Byzantinæ, a collection of historical sources." (www.wikipedia.org/Byzantine Empire.)

"The very name Byzantine illustrates the misconceptions to which the empire's history has often been subject, for its inhabitants would hardly have considered the term appropriate to themselves or to their state. **Theirs was, in their view, none other than the Roman Empire... They called themselves Romaioi, or Romans.**"

(Encyclopedia Britannica. Article: Byzantine Empire. But, an effort to justify the designation of "Byzantine Empire" is made in the article. For example: *"Modern historians agree with them only in part...*" A weird observation, I must say. And ask: What right do modern historians have to call a people of the past by a name they never used for themselves, or their kingdom by a name they never applied to it?)

The Roman Empire, the sixth head of the first beast of Revelation 13, also represented by the sixth mountain and the sixth king of Revelation 17, suffered what seemed to be a mortal wound (Revelation 13:3), caused in great part by terrible civil wars, especially that between Constantine and Maxentius, his brother-in-law. In 312

a. d., Constantine defeated Maxentius at the Milvian Bridge, near Rome, and proceeded to unite the empire. He built a new, fabulous capital for the Empire at Byzantium, on the Bosporus Strait, a strategic point between Europe and Asia. Inaugurated May 11, 330 a. d., the new capital was called, at first, "New Rome," but soon renamed Constantinople in honor of its founder. "In less than two centuries, Constantinople became the richest, most beautiful and civilized city of the world. By the year 337 a. d., it had 50,000 inhabitants; by the year 400, approximately 100,000; and by the year 500, almost 1,000,000." ("History of Civilization," Volume IV, The Era of Faith, Pages 3-5, by Will and Ariel Durant.) Thus was the seemingly mortal wound healed! The healing was of the Roman Empire, and did not produce a new creature called the "Byzantine Empire." Constantine and the multitudes who accompanied him to build and occupy "New Rome" were not Byzantines but Romans. Clearly, the "Byzantine Empire" is a myth concocted by careless historians and spread by many, both secular and religious, who have not diligently done their homework. I do not mean to sound judgmental nor do I wish to be dogmatic. Just to set records straight.

The "false history," patently false, of...

"476 a. d. for the definitive end of the Roman Empire...

Odoacer, a pagan German who took control of the western part of the Roman Empire, converting it into an independent, barbarian kingdom, and...

Byzantine Empire distinct and apart from the Roman Empire,"

... has produced "equally false perspectives with regard to prophecies and signs."

Because the thesis of many preachers, teachers and writers who believe that false history is that the prophecies of Revelation were fulfilled before the year 476 a. d. An untenable thesis, considering the great quantity of evidences against it this writer, and others, have compiled. [For example, the 1,100 letter-size page commentary in Spanish: "Apocalipsis: análisis de las profecías y visiones" ("Revelation: Analysis of the Prophecies and Visions") by this author, of which this article on the Seventh King-Kingdom-Beast is a translated portion.] Now then, by limiting the prophecies and related signs of their fulfillment to times prior to 476, they do, effectively, deprive Christians of later times, including those of these modern times, of the signs that are, in reality, taking place today in fulfillment of very specific divine prophecies. Signs that Christians of today need in order to be dutifully oriented with respect to actual "times and... seasons" (1 Thessalonians 5:1-7). Signs they need to strengthen their faith in the inspiration of the Bible, particularly the New Testament. Not only Christians are deprived of them but also the unconverted, who need to be made aware of them, so that they will see that the author, namely, God, of the prophecies they fulfill is absolutely credible, concluding also that Revelation in particular, as well as relevant prophetical texts, are not the fictitious fabrications of superstitious minds, but true, inspired prophecies, proven to be so by exact fulfillment.]

So then, the seventh king would arise AFTER the fall of the Roman Empire. This means that we should anticipate his appearing in a time subsequent to the year 1806 a. d.

How long does the seventh king continue on the earth? "...only a little while," according to Revelation 17:10. This parameter of "only a little while" is of the greatest importance for the correct identification of the seventh king. He makes his entrance on the world stage sometime after the year 1806 a. d. and exercises dominion "only a little while." He does not remain in power during long centuries, in marked contrast to the Roman Empire and the Egyptian Empire.

What kind of nature does the seventh king manifest? We observe that he is number seven of a group of "seven kings," and we know from attentively reading Revelation that these "seven kings" belong to "the beast," because they are represented by the "seven heads" of the beast. Since this "beast" symbolizes, in universal terms, the deceived secular-political power (empires, nations, republics, countries, principalities), whether idolatrous or atheistic, opposed to God and a persecutor of the saints, it is logical to infer that the nature of the seventh king would be that of a kingdom absolutely NOT in sympathy with God, Christ or their spiritual Kingdom, setting himself against them, shackling them and persecuting them on the earth, just as the other six kings-kingdoms did.

**The identity of the seventh king.** What earthly kingdom answers to this data on the *"seventh king?"* Reviewing the history of the world after the fall of the Holy Roman Empire in the year 1806, we find a country that appears to fulfill, with amazing exactness, the projections of the prophecy about the *"seventh king,"* to wit: the **UNION of SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS**. Let us consider.



The military might of the USSR on display during an annual parade.

At the beginning of the Twentieth Century, more than a century after the final demise of the Holy Roman Empire, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics arises, displacing the old Russian Empire, with its czar and nobility, and installs, with great violence to peoples and properties, a **communist political-social-economic system**.

#### The Soviet Union (URSS)

"The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (abreviated: USSR). In Russian: Союз Советских Социалистических Республик. It was a constitutional federation of socialist states, based on the communist ideology, that existed in Eurasia from 1922, until its dissolution in 1991." (www.wikipedia.org. Article "Soviet Union")

It continues "only a little while." The Soviet Union, established in the year 1922 a. d., dissolved in 1991 a. d, only 69 years after it was founded. Once it came into being, it did not take very long, comparatively, for it to become great and powerful among the nations of the world, but, astonishingly, it lasted "only a little while!" Despite the enormous extension of its territories, its vast population, the abundance of its resources and its powerful military force, including nuclear weapons, it remained in power for only 69 years! Incredible, but true. Contrasting notably, the Roman Empire lasted for more than 2,000 years, from 753 before Christ until the year 1806 after Christ. (Data on the Soviet Union taken from the Microsoft Encyclopedia, CD-ROM, 1994).

# The Soviet Union rises up like a wild beast against God and religion in general.

## It officially proclaims itself an atheistic state.

The government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, having as its vision and guide the radical socialism of the atheist philosopher **Karl Marx**, author of the famous expression: *"Religion is the opiate of the masses,"* opposed God, forbidding and even openly persecuting religion in all its manifestations. By acting in that way, it displayed, boldly and shamelessly, the attributes of the great *"scarlet beast,"* that rises up once and again throughout human history against the true God and human beings that profess faith in him. It turned, at times, up to two thirds of the population of the USSR against the Creator of the universe, and enacted very severe, even brutal, measures against those refusing to deny him, particularly religious leaders, of whom even large numbers suffered martyrdom during certain stages of intense persecution.



An image of Iósiv Stalin is superimposed on a photograph of a forced labor camp

"The 1918 Council of People's Commissars decree establishing the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic (RSFSR) as a secular state also decreed that "the teaching of religion in all [places] where subjects of general instruction are taught, is forbidden. Citizens may teach and may be taught religion privately."<sup>[184]</sup> Among further restrictions, those adopted in 1929, a half-decade into Stalin's rule, included express prohibitions on a range of church activities, including meetings for organized Bible study.<sup>[183]</sup> Both Christian and non-Christian establishments were shut down by the thousands in the 1920's and 1930's. By 1940, as many as 90 percent of the churches, synagogues, and mosques that had been operating in 1917 were closed."

(<u>www.wikipedia.org</u>. Article: Soviet Union)

**Persecution of Christians in the Soviet Union.** The long and widespread persecution of Christians in the USSR is testimony to the strong opposition of the ruling elements in that country to God the Creator, every "god" and every church or religion. In the context of this message, "Christian" includes every person who believes in Christ, God the Father being the one who determines which Christians are, in the final analysis, his true spiritual children, and which are not because they do not do his will (Matthew 7:21-23; 2 Timothy 2:19). Sadly, not everyone who loses his life because he identifies himself as "Christian" is necessarily a true "martyr of Christ," but only those approved and received as such by God (2 Corinthians 10:15-18). The following information is found in www.wikipedia.org, in the article: "Persecution of Christians in the Soviet Unión."

"Soviet policy toward religion was based on the ideology of Marxism-Leninism, which made **atheism the official doctrine of the Communist Party**. However, 'the Soviet law and administrative practice through most of the 1920's extended some tolerance to religion and forbade the arbitrary closing or destruction of some functioning churches,' <sup>[21]</sup> and each successive Soviet constitution granted freedom of belief. As the founder of the Soviet state, Lenin, put it:

'Religion is the opium of the people: this saying of Marx is the cornerstone of the entire ideology of Marxism about religion. All modern religions and churches, all and of every kind of religious organizations are always considered by Marxism as the organs of bourgeois reaction, used for the protection of the exploitation and the stupefaction of the working class.' [10]

Marxism-Leninism advocates the suppression and ultimately the disappearance of religious beliefs, considering them to be "unscientific" and "superstitious". In the 1920's and 1930's, such organizations as the League of the Militant Godless were active in anti-religious propaganda. Atheism was the norm in schools, communist organizations (such as the Young Pioneer Organization), and the media."

*Marxist–Leninist atheism has consistently advocated the control, suppression, and elimination of religion.* Within about a year of the revolution, the state expropriated all church property, including the churches themselves, and in the period from 1922 to 1926, **28 Russian Orthodox bishops and more than 1,200 priests were killed**. Many more were persecuted.<sup>[11]</sup>

After the Second World War, the **Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church** identified closely with the nationalist aspirations of the region, arousing the hostility of the Soviet government, which was in combat with Ukrainian Insurgency. In 1945, Soviet authorities arrested the church's Metropolitan Josyf Slipyj, nine bishops and hundreds of clergy and leading lay activists, and **deported them to forced labor camps in Siberia and elsewhere**. The nine bishops and many of the clergy died in prisons, concentration camps, internal exile, or soon after their release during the post-Stalin thaw.<sup>[12]</sup>

Many **Protestants** were apprehended under Communist rule of law, including imprisonment and execution. Vladimir Shelkov (1895–1980), the leader of the unregistered Seventh-day Adventist movement in the Soviet Union, spent almost all his life from 1931 on in prison; he died in Yakutia camp. Large numbers of Pentecostals were imprisoned, and many died there, including Ivan Voronaev, one of their leaders.<sup>[14]</sup>

In the period after the Second World War, Protestants in the USSR (Baptists, Pentecostals, Adventists and others) were sent to mental hospitals or tried and imprisoned, often for refusal to enter military service. Some were deprived of their parental rights.<sup>[14]</sup>

A number of congregations of Russian Mennonites, Jehovah's Witnesses, and other Christian groups existed in the Soviet Union. Nearly 9,000 Jehovah's Witnesses were deported to Siberia in 1951 (numbers of those missed in deportation unknown). The number of Jehovah's Witnesses increased greatly over this period, with a KGB estimate of around 20,000 in 1968. Russian Mennonites began to emigrate from the Soviet Union in the face of increasing violence and persecution, state restrictions on freedom of religion, and biased allotments of communal farmland. They emigrated to Germany, Britain, the United States, parts of South America, and other regions."

**Persecution of Jews in the Soviet Union.** Becoming an officially atheistic state set on eliminating religion, some government leaders of the USSR and coreligionists of the population severely persecuted the Jewish population at times. In 1917, at the beginning of the Bolshevik revolution which lead to the creation of the USSR, 50% of the worlds Jews lived in Russia - about 7 million. Many of the powerful and influential in that revolution were Jews, or part Jewish. Even Lenin himself was one-quarter Jewish. Some persecution of some Jews was more for political reasons rather than for religious ones.

"Even though many of the Old Bolsheviks were ethnically Jewish, they sought to uproot Judaism and Zionism and established the Yevsektsiya to achieve this goal. By the end of the 1940's, the Communist leadership of the former USSR had liquidated almost all Jewish organizations, with the exception of a few token synagogues. These synagogues were then placed under police surveillance, both openly and through the use of informants.

The campaign of 1948–1953 against so-called "rootless cosmopolitans," the alleged "Doctors' plot," the rise of "Zionology" and subsequent activities of official organizations such as the Anti-Zionist committee of the Soviet public were officially carried out under the banner of "anti-Zionism,", and by the mid-1950's the state persecution of Soviet Jews emerged as a major human rights issue in the West as well as domestically." (www.wikipedia.org. Article: "Persecution of the Jews")

**Conclusion.** Following in the steps of the first six kings and manifesting the same nature opposed to God, but lasting *"only for a little while,"* the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics appears to be the country that fulfills in every detail the prophecies made with regard to the seventh king.

## This is a tremendous SIGN, visible in all the world during the 20th Century and even to the present day!

#### Did you see it while it was occurring?

#### Are you seeing it now?

Do you now comprehend that its appearance is the indisputable fulfillment of a prophecy given by God, through his son Jesus Christ, **1,827 years before it began to be fulfilled?** Do you understand that this fact effectively **validates the entire book of Revelation?** This means that **all the rest of the prophecies of the book are also authentic!** 

#### What other king-kingdom-beast follows the seventh?

#### Well, as to be expected, the EIGHTH!

"The beast that you saw was, and is not, and is to ascend from the bottomless pit and go to perdition; and the dwellers on earth whose names have not been written in the book of life from the foundation of the world, will marvel to behold the beast, because it was and is not and is to come." (Revelation 17:8)

"As for the beast that was and is not, it is **an eighth** but **it belongs to the seven**, and **it goes to perdition**." (Revelation 17:11)

## Be on guard, citizens of the world, for the SIGN of the EIGHTH KING-KINGDOM-BEAST!

#### This one GOES to PERDITION!

#### He is the last!

He is also known prophetically as the *"the LITTLE HORN."* (Daniel 7:7-28; Revelation 17)

Once the Eighth King-Kingdom-Beast is overcome by Jesus Christ in his Second Coming, God's purpose for the material world and humanity will be completed.

Then, "there will be no more delay" for "the time for the dead to be judged, for rewarding" the servants, prophets and saints of God, and "for destroying the destroyers of the earth."

#### The just shall be glorified eternally.

The unjust shall receive their just reward.

Are you so interested in the kingdoms of the earth, perhaps in one particular kingdom, nation or country, that you are not even concerned enough to investigate the possible existence of another type of "kingdom" not of an earthly nature? If that is so, then it is to be deduced that **you have cast your lot for the present and eternity with the kingdoms of this world**. But, it is to be supposed that such a visible and powerful sign as that of the Seventh King would strongly impact you, leading you to reason that if God visualized 1,827 years ago the rising of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, its nature and actions, and its existence for only *"a short while,"* then **he is indeed real!** And so is his Son, Jesus Christ! They really exist! And their Word is true!

As a matter of fact, from remote times they have been communicating with humanity about their own "kingdom," "the Kingdom of Christ and of God" (Ephesians 5:5). A Kingdom that "is

**not of this world"** (John 18:36), **"that cannot be shaken,"** and that **"shall stand forever"** (Hebrews 12:28; Daniel 2:44; 7:27). They clearly and forcefully explain that in order to see it and be admitted into it, **you must be "born of the water,"** that is, immersed in water, baptized in water, and that **you must also be born of "the Spirit,"** that is to say, submerged in the teachings of the Spirit, in the gospel of Christ, in the **"word of the Lord" that "abides forever"** (John 3:1-7; 1 Peter 1:25). Actions you may take without delay, if you so desire. And, we shall be glad to assist you in any way we can, also helping you find a congregation guided solely by the "doctrine of Christ," (Hebrews 6:1; 1 Timothy 3:16; 2 John 1:9-11), one that does not enslave to religious traditions nor exploits its members financially. Please give the **"SIGNS of the TIMES"** the importance they are meant to have, making sensible decisions about your life, both present and future.

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