



Europe in Bible Prophecy

Presentation notes for Vacation Bible School 2004 Adult Bible Study

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Note: These presentation notes are intended to go along with the PowerPoint presentation with the same title created by Dave Reagan of Lamb & Lion Ministries (www.lamblion.com) for NACC in July, 2003. Scripture used in these notes is from the New King James Version.

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We're going to take a look at a PowerPoint presentation originally developed by Dr. David Regan of Lamb & Lion Ministries.

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I have updated it and embellished it with some of my own observations.

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Most Americans are unaware of the tremendous fulfillment of Bible prophecy that is occurring in the Europe today.

The European Union is mistakenly viewed by many Americans as nothing more than an exercise in regional economic cooperation. But it is much more than that. It was converted from an economic union to a political one in 1993, and the impact on the member states was sudden and, in some cases, overwhelming.

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For example, almost overnight the European Parliament mandated that the British surrender their ancient system of weights and measures for the metric system.

Gasoline pumps were converted from gallons to liters, and no one understood how much they were buying or what they were paying. People had to consult conversion charts posted at each station - and even then, most drove away wondering how much they had paid per gallon.

Butcher shops were compelled to stop selling in pounds. They were told to switch to kilograms. Many, like this butcher refused.

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The butcher was arrested, and his hopeless case became the rallying point for those opposed to the European Union.

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His case prompted this editorial cartoon, it shows an officer in the Euro Army training troops. Pointing to a distant farm house, he says, "I want you to imagine that hut is a greengrocer's selling vegetables in pounds and ounces." (As if that was their worse kind of enemy.)

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The European Parliament also mandated that all nationalistic identifying marks be removed from license plates and be replaced with the Euro flag, Gerald Howarth, Member of England's Parliament, made national headlines when he refused to obey this law by not removing the Great Britain decal from his license plate.

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Here is a close-up photo of Mr. Howarth, showing the British flag and initials, GB, for Great Britain, which the European Parliament demanded be removed,

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And here is an English lady showing her new drivers license featuring the Euro flag.

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In like manner, there is a move in the direction of erasing national identities from passports. In this picture you see an old British passport on the right which clearly states at the top, "British Passport." The new passport on the left, issued recently to the same individual, says at the top, "European Community."

These changes may seem trivial, but they are part of an orchestrated strategy to gradually replace national identifies with allegiance to the European Union, causing people to think of themselves as Europeans rather than as Irish, British, French or Germans.

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What we are witnessing in Europe today is a revival of the old Roman Empire in the form of the European Union.

- This is a development that is truly miraculous in nature.
- Think about it for a moment: The concept of reviving the Roman Empire has never died.

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The Pope tried through the establishment of the Holy Roman Empire - which proved to be an empire in name only.

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Then, several political leaders like Napoleon, Hitler, Mussolini, and Stalin tried to recreate the Roman Empire through the use of military power. But all their efforts failed, because it was not God's timing.

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Then, suddenly, when God's timing was perfect, the European nations put aside their hatreds and joined hands peacefully to revive the Empire.

Today, the European Union consists of 15 nations in the heart of Europe and, as we will see, it is on the verge of a major expansion.

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Let's consider for a moment the relevant Bible prophecies.

- In Daniel 2 you may be familiar with Nebuchadnezzar's dream of a great statue of a man, and Daniel's interpretation that it stood for a succession of empires, beginning with the Babylonian and continuing through three successive empires represented by the chest, thighs and legs.
- Looking back in history, we can see that these 3 were the Medo-Persian Empire, followed by the Greek Empire of Alexander the Great, and then the Roman Empire.
- But Daniel also prophesied that in the end times, right before the return of the Messiah, the empire represented by the legs - the Roman - would come back together in a confederation represented by the feet and ten toes of the statue. The iron brings continuity to the old and new Roman empires.

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In Daniel 7, the prophet Daniel has a vision of a series of ravenous beasts that devour one another. These beasts represent the same succession of empires.

The first is a lion representing Babylon. It is overcome by a bear symbolizing Medo-Persia. The bear falls to a leopard signifying Greece. The leopard is replaced by a fourth beast that is described as "dreadful, terrifying, and extremely strong" - a beast with iron teeth and ten horns.

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The distinction between the two visions is significant. Nebuchadnezzar saw the empires through Man's eyes - as something wonderful and glorious. Daniel saw them through God's eyes - as evil, ravenous beasts.

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The fourth beast in Daniel's vision - the one described as "dreadful, terrifying, and strong with iron teeth" - corresponds to the Roman Empire. And out of its head came ten horns which correspond to the ten toes of Nebuchadnezzar's statue. Once again, we have the end time European confederation, and Daniel says out of it will come the Antichrist.

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Daniel said, "While I was contemplating the horns, behold, another horn, a little one, came up among them, and three of the first horns were pulled out by the roots before it; and behold, this horn possessed eyes like the eyes of a man, and a mouth uttering great boasts."

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"As for the ten horns, out of this kingdom ten kings will arise; and another will arise after them, and he will be different from the previous ones and will subdue three kings. And he will speak out against the Most High and wear down the saints of the Highest One, and he will intend to make alterations in times and the law; and they will be given into his hands for a time, times, and a half a time."

So the Antichrist will emerge from among the ten kings that represent the power in the revived Roman Empire. The "time, times and half a time" represents the three and a half years the Antichrist persecutes Israel, Jesus called this the Great Tribulation.

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In Daniel chapter 9, the prophet once again confirms that the Antichrist will be of Roman descent...

"And after the sixty-two weeks, an anointed one shall be cut off and shall have nothing. And the people of the prince who is to come shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. Its end shall come with a flood, and to the end there shall be war. Desolations are decreed."

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In Revelation 13, the Antichrist is pictured as having 7 heads and 10 horns. The 7 heads correspond to the 7 great Gentile Empires of history: Egypt, Assyria, Babylon, Medo-Persia, Greece, Rome and the European confederation of the end times - that is, the Revived Roman Empire.

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Based on these prophecies, prophetic scholars concluded long ago that in the end times...

The Roman Empire will be revived.

The Empire will be divided into ten administrative units.

The Antichrist will rise to power by taking over three of these regions.

Using Europe as his base, the Antichrist will then proceed to conquer the world.

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The turning point for the fulfillment of these prophecies came with World War II. Just as the War resulted in the re-establishment of Israel by motivating the Jewish people to go back home, it also motivated the movement toward European unity.

Europe was in ruins and was desperate. This desperation prompted European leaders to put aside ancient hatreds and jealousies in order to reach out to each other for mutual support and aid.

The result was a series of economic mergers which were ultimately to lead to political integration.

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It all began on May 9, 1950 when the French foreign minister, Robert Schuman, announced a plan conceived by a French businessman, Jean Monnet.

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The plan was to pool European coal and steel production. The result was the formation in 1951 of the European Coal and Steel Community, consisting of France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium, and Luxembourg.

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The next step came in March of 1957 with the Treaty of Rome. The members of the European Coal and Steel Community agreed to set up a Common Market which went into effect in January 1958. This resulted in the economic integration and unification of the economies of the participating nations.

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The next step came in 1973 when three nations were added to the European Economic Community. They were Denmark, Ireland, and Britain. Later additions included:

- Greece in 1981
 - Spain & Portugal in 1986
 - Austria, Finland & Sweden in 1995
- Making a total of 15 nations.

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The latest major step took place in February 1992 when the Maastricht Treaty was signed that transformed the European Economic Community into a political and economic entity called the European Union - a Union that came into existence in 1993.

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Since that time, the European Union has rapidly evolved into a super-state. The chief legislative body, called the Council of Europe, is headquartered in Brussels, Belgium.

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The EU Council consists of 87 representatives appointed by the member states. Voting is weighted in relation to the size of the states and a "qualified majority" of 62 votes is required on most issues.

This body has the power to overrule all national laws of member's states.

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The European Parliament, located in Strasbourg, France, consists of 626 members who are directly elected by regions for 5 year terms. Now this is confusing because you would think it is the chief legislative body. But it is not. The Council is the legislative body.

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Currently, it is a Parliament in name only. Mainly, it is a public forum -- a sort of European town council. But its voice carries a lot of weight. Most legislative proposals originate from its deliberations, and it is growing in power, emerging as the lower house of what is likely to become a two house Parliament - with the Council serving as the upper house, or the Senate.

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Members sit in political blocs according to ideology, and not nationalities. Again, this is part of the effort to break down national allegiances.

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You can see from this map how England has been divided up into districts, with representatives responsible for representing their district, rather than England as a whole.

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The Executive Branch is called the European Commission. It is headquartered in Brussels, Belgium.

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The European Commission consists of 20 members appointed by the member states for terms of 5 years. This group selects the chief administrative officer of the European Union.

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The current president of the Commission is Romano Prodi of Italy. He is essentially the CEO of the European Union. This is the position the future Antichrist is most likely to control.

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The European Court of Justice is located in Luxembourg and has the power to override the supreme courts of the member nations.

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The European Central Bank is located in Frankfurt, Germany.

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Revenue comes from a 1.27% tax of each nation's Gross National Income. Revenue is also derived from a V A T tax and custom duties. In 2000, the income totaled \$93 billion.

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The Currency, called the Euro, was introduced in 1999.

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The Euro replaced the currencies of most of the member nations in January 2002.

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The British have held out, but the Pound is doomed. The Labor Party favors the Euro, and the European Union is putting great economic pressure on the British to give in.

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This illustration from an official EU publication shows the hope that the Euro will one day become the currency of the world.

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So, as you can see, the European Union has all the trappings of a state...

Governmental agencies - legislative, executive and judicial.

Taxing power.

Common currency.

The main thing missing has been a police force.
But it is forming...

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The European Union is currently putting together an army of 60,000 called "the rapid-action Eurocorps."

The Commander-in-Chief is General Gustav Hagglund of Finland.

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And in addition to all this, a new European holiday has been created to celebrate the building of this new European Empire: May 9th.

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And the statistics make it clear that we are talking about a new super state. The 15 member nations constitute:

- 20% of the world's Gross Domestic Product
- 20% of world trade
- 374 million people

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In comparison to the United States and Japan, the European Union excels both in population...

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...and in world trade.

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Significantly, the European Union is poised for a major expansion...

Ten nations were tentatively approved for membership in October 2002, effective 2004. Eight are from Eastern Europe: the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Poland, Slovenia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Slovakia. The island nations of Cyprus and Malta were also approved. Membership petitions by Bulgaria and Rumania are being considered.

When all of these are added, the European Union will consist of 27 nations representing over 500 million people.

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The main thing this super state now lacks is a super leader. But the attitude exists for the emergence of such a person.

One of the early leaders toward European unity was Paul Henri Spaak of Belgium. Fifty years ago he said,

"We do not want another committee... What we want is a man of sufficient stature to hold the allegiance of all the people... Send us such a man and, be he God or the devil, we will receive him."

There are many spiritual implications of the European Union - factors which make it clear that Satan must be the motivating force behind the whole movement. Consider, for example:

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The Tower of Babel Motif that is prominently associated with the European Union today. From the beginning, the tower of Babel, which spiritually represents Man's rebellion against God, has become one of the identifying themes of the European Union.

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Note this poster which was issued by the European Union several years ago. It shows robotic laborers and a crane rebuilding the Tower of Babel. The slogan reads: "Many tongues, one voice."

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Notice this aerial photo of the Parliament building in Strausbourg, France.

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Note that it features a structure that is supposed to resemble the Tower of Babel.

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This demonic symbol is used proudly to indicate that Europe will succeed where Babylon failed.

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The EU Flag - features 12 stars in a circle.

Why 12 when there are 15 members states? It's because the symbolism is taken from the Catholic Church's traditional portrayal of Mary.

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On the cover of this book about the European Union is a picture of Mary with a halo of 12 stars preparing to crown the next Holy Roman Emperor.

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This picture is taken from a stain glass window at Strasbourg Cathedral, dedicated to the Council of Europe.

This imagery is drawn, of course, from Revelation 12 where the woman with a halo of 12 stars represents Israel, not Mary. In the Bible, the number 12 is usually associated with the nation of Israel, the people God chose to reveal Himself through.

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A former Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Leon Marchal, affirmed that the stars on the EU flag are those of "the woman of the Apocalypse." This is the standard Catholic interpretation.

Enthusiastically, he explained, "It's wonderful that we have gotten back to the Introit of the new Mass of the Assumption. The symbol is the *corona stellarum duodecim* (which means the crown of the twelve stars of the woman of the Apocalypse)."

The EU has confirmed that the number of stars will always stay at 12, which indicates that the stars do not represent the member states. In an official EU leaflet entitled "Building Europe Together," it states: "The European flag is a shared flag, blue with 12 gold stars symbolizing completeness. The number will remain 12 no matter how many countries there are in the European Union."

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It is no wonder that the Pope has enthusiastically endorsed the European Union.

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I'm sure the Pope is even more thrilled with the EU when he learned his image would be on Euro coins.

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What world leader wouldn't want their face on the money? I recall Jesus saying, "render unto Caesar that which is Caesar's." I guess that would apply here as well.

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The EU Anthem - is "Ode to Joy," the prelude of the last movement of Beethoven's 9th Symphony.

The words, by Fredrich von Schiller, concern Mankind entering the shrine of a pagan goddess who unites all Men by the power of magic.

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The EU Logo - is, incredibly, a woman riding on a beast! This comes right out of the Satanic imagery of Revelation 17 where a harlot is portrayed riding on a beast in the sea. This woman represents the apostate religion of the Antichrist.

The Europeans don't see it that way. They view it as a representation of an ancient myth about a woman named Europa who was captured and raped by the god Zeus who disguised himself as a bull. But even so, why would anyone want to use such a pagan, repulsive story as the symbol of a new super state?

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Here is the logo as it appeared on the cover of the German magazine, *Der Spiegel*, in May of 2000. It shows a woman riding a bull while holding the Euro flag.

This symbol can also be found in a huge painting in the ED Parliament's new building in Brussels.

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Here is the same symbol on a German telephone card, showing how widespread the use of the symbol has become.

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Here is the demonic symbol on a Euro coin of the Netherlands and on a British stamp. On the coin she is riding over the sea, as depicted in Revelation 17 - the waters representing the Gentile nations of the world. On the stamp she is also riding over water in the form of seven waves which some Bible scholars believe representative of Rome, the governmental seat of the Antichrist.

I actually believe this is a reference to the G-7 world economic leaders. I get this from Revelation 18, see my Bible Study on the Financial Signs of the End Times.

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Here is a close-up of the symbol on a Greek Euro Coin.

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And finally, here is the symbol portrayed in a large statue located outside the EU Council of Ministers Office in Brussels, Belgium.

To the modern European mind, this symbol represents the taming of the beast of nationalism through European unity.

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In conclusion, the end time Super State prophesied by Daniel has been born. The Roman Empire is being revived. It is being resurrected from the dead before our very eyes.

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It will soon give birth to the Antichrist who will use it as his base to conquer the world.

Here is an insight from Dennis Pollock, associate evangelist for Lam & Lion Ministries, regarding the European Union: "The first time Jesus came, the Roman Empire controlled the world and Israel existed as a nation within that empire. The Romans and Jews conspired together to murder Jesus. When Jesus returns, the Roman Empire will control the world again and Israel will once again be part of it. But this time, the Jews will reject Rome, a great remnant will be saved, and Jesus will destroy the Revived Roman Empire."

We are living in exciting times when we can see prophecy fulfilled before our very eyes. The revival of the Roman Empire is one of those fulfillments, and it is a sure sign that we are living on borrowed time.

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That means Jesus is at the very gates of Heaven, ready to return any moment.

That prospect should cause all of us to cry out from the depths of our hearts, "Maranatha! Maranatha! Maranatha! Come quickly, Lord Jesus!"