

# IS AMERICA IN BIBLE PROPHECY?

There are several various views in evangelical churches on the question of whether America is mentioned in Bible prophecy. This is a burning question for many people. Chuck Missler in his book Prophecy 20/20 introduces the subject this way:

One of the most frequent questions I get asked as I travel is, where is America in Bible prophecy? In the minds of many, it appears conspicuous in its absence of mention in the end-time scenario. There seems to be a clear depiction of Russia (Magog) and its allies, the Kings of the South (Egypt), the Kings of the East, and, of course, Israel, in the events leading up to Armageddon. But the role of America, a superpower, seems noticeably absent...

Many conjectures spring from this ostensible omission. Some suspect that the United States may be allied with one of the more Biblically visible parties. As one explores each alternative speculation, it appears rather difficult to justify.

Others suspect that America may not be as dominant - for any of several reasons - by the time of the final climaxes. Some observers point to the possibility of a major economic decline, and others suggest a military or terrorist setback (p.239).

Mark Hitchcock in his book "Is America in Bible Prophecy" says:

I have to confess: I love Bible prophecy and I love America. So I guess it was just a matter of time before I wrote a book about America in Bible prophecy. Ever since I became interested in Bible prophecy, I have wondered about the end-times destiny of the land that I love. And I've discovered that I'm not alone.

As I have had the privilege of speaking at prophecy conferences and churches over the last ten years, probably the number one question I have heard is this: Is America in Bible prophecy? Something inside us wants to know what will ultimately happen to this great land we call the United States of America (p.7).

Given the interest in the subject noticed by the above two authors it is small wonder why "The United States and Britain in Prophecy" was the most requested booklet of the many written by Herbert W Armstrong.

There are several views in the Protestant / Evangelical churches as to where America is in Bible prophecy that include being the Beast power (or allied to the Beast power as part of a world government), the second beast that looked like a lamb and spoke like a dragon to vague references in the Old Testament. Others say that America is nowhere mentioned in the prophecies but that this silence tells us something important about its decline and why.

Let's look at the first view that America is the beast. In his book "Is America in Bible Prophecy?" Mark Hitchcock summarises the view of many this way:

One of the key individuals who believes that America is Babylon is S. Franklin Logsdon. He finds it inconceivable that God would not mention America in Scripture:

"It would be most unwise to declare that the U.S.A. is not in prophecy, that the Lord did not see these conditions existing here as well as in the other nations of the world. Actually, it is unthinkable that the God who knows the end from the beginning would pinpoint such small nations as Libya, Egypt, Ethiopia and Syria in the prophetic declaration and completely overlook the wealthiest and most powerful nation on the earth."

Logsdon points to another passage of Scripture that mentions Babylon, **Jeremiah 50-51**, to identify sixteen parallels between Babylon and modern America. His conclusion: America will be destroyed in the last days by a great alliance of nations from the north, probably led by Russia, that will use devastating weapons to strike unexpectedly, suddenly, and decisively.

Jack Van Impe, a popular television prophecy teacher, also points to **Jeremiah 50-51** and **Revelation 18** as describing America in the last days. In his book "The Great Escape", he points out several similarities between Babylon and the United States. Then he concludes, "That, my friends, is a graphic picture of the United States of America."

In another of his books, Van Impe says this:

"In **Revelation, chapter 18**, John the Apostle also alludes to this nation - a rich land laden with sins that has glorified herself and lived deliciously.

"As I continue to read and study the prophetic writings of Scripture, I become more and more convinced that this is a direct reference to the United States. The present hedonistic pleasure-craze of our nation will not last forever. America's destruction may come quick as lightning."

The most extensive, in-depth treatment of the view that America is the Babylon of the last days comes from author R. A. Coombes in his book "America, the Babylon: America's Destiny Foretold in Biblical Prophecy".

Coombes closely examines **Jeremiah 50-51** and several chapters from **Isaiah** (see **13-14; 18; 21; 24; 47-48**). Then he identifies thirty-three markers that he says show that Babylon in the last days is the leading city in America: New York City. Here are ten of his more interesting points:

1. Future Babylon will be the last of the superpowers (see **Jeremiah 50:12**).
2. Future Babylon is where a body of the world's leaders assembles and meets (see **Jeremiah 51:44**).
3. Future Babylon is the world's policeman (see **Jeremiah 50:23**).
4. Future Babylon is extremely wealthy (see **Jeremiah 51:13**).
5. Future Babylon is a land of immigrants (see **Jeremiah 50:16**).
6. Future Babylon has no fear of invasion on its home soil (see **Isaiah 47:5, 8**).
7. Future Babylon is noted for its disrespect of the elderly (see **Isaiah 47:6**).
8. Future Babylon is a military air power and a land of air travel; it would seem to have massive air power capability (see **Isaiah 18:1**).
9. Future Babylon is seemingly connected to outer space (just as ancient Babylon was with its tower of Babel), and that connection is perhaps more than simply observing the stars (see **Jeremiah 51:53**).
10. Future Babylon seems to have something akin to stealth technology (see **Isaiah 47:10-13**).

Then Coombes turns to the Babylon of Revelation 17-18. He presents a sixty-six-point list that identifies it with New York City. Once again, here are ten of his more interesting points:

1. New York City is the location of the only world-governing body, the United Nations (see **Revelation 17:2, 8**).

2. New York City is the city of commerce...
3. New York City is home to:
  - the New York Stock Exchange;
  - the American Stock Exchange;
  - NASDAQ;
  - the biggest banks, including the Federal Reserve Bank, the biggest in the world; it is the "engine of wealth" for the world economy (see **Revelation 18:15, 19**).
4. New York City is a deep-water port city, one of the world's greatest seaports ever (see **Revelation 18:17-19**).
5. New York City is the key cultural city of the world (see **Revelation 18:22**).
6. New York City is the largest consumer of illicit drugs, especially heavy drugs like heroin and cocaine (see **Revelation 18:23**).
7. New York City is and always has been a city of immigrants (see **Revelation 18:15**).
8. New York City is the place for merchandising occultism (see **Revelation 18:23**).
9. New York City has the largest population of Jews in America; further, the U.S. is home to more Jewish people than anywhere in the world, including Israel. New York City and the U.S. share this distinction with ancient Babylon (see **Revelation 18:4; Jeremiah 50:8, 28; 51:6, 45-46**).
10. On Long Island, overlooking one of the main harbor approaches to New York - City and within view of the Statue of Liberty, is the community of Babylon, New York. This community received its name because of the large influx of Jewish immigrants settling in the area; the Jewish population began to grow reminiscent of the Jewish exiles from ancient Babylon.

Another key point that Coombes focuses on is the alleged similarity between the Statue of Liberty and the woman riding the beast in Revelation 17-18. He notes the following parallels:

THE WOMAN ON THE BEAST	STATUE OF LIBERTY
Robed in scarlet or purple	Robed (originally in scarlet/purple)
Golden cup in her hand	Originally a golden cup, changed to a torch
Purple robes denotes royalty; we can imagine her wearing a crown	Crown of seven spikes or horns
Cup contents: smelly pollutants connected to immigrants (see Revelation 17:15)	Cup contents: natural gas flame connected to immigrants
She sits on seven heads-mountains or continents	The seven spikes or horns on her crown represents the seven continents
Represents Babylon the megacity	Overlooks Babylon on Long Island; supposed to be a representation of the goddess "Liberty," aka Aphrodite, Venus, Isis, and ultimately Ishtar-the primary goddess of Babylon
Reigns over the kings of the earth	Overlooks the UN building
Mother of harlots	Mother of exiles, according to the poem on the base of the statue.

OBJECTION, YOUR HONOR!

I believe that neither America nor New York City is the Babylon of **Revelation 17-18**. For one thing, Babylon is presented as a wicked city (not a nation) that persecutes God's people, especially the prophets and saints (see **Revelation 17:6; 18:24**). Though we may agree that New York City has a great deal of wickedness, as do all big cities, it has consistently been a safe haven to which Jews and Christians from all over the world have been able to flee in order to escape persecution (p.25-33).

Hitchcock then goes on to put forward his view that Babylon here refers to the literal city of Babylon which he believes will be rebuilt. This was being restored as an archaeological city by Saddam Hussein at the time that Hitchcock wrote his book. Since then this has been put off indefinitely as a result of the second Gulf War where Saddam Hussein was deposed which later led to civil war. Even if restarted again that literal city (as an archaeological site) would not fit the description of a great trading city and political hub of the world.

Another doubter of this view in the evangelical world is Hal Lindsey who writes:

Probably the most widely accepted explanation of America in Bible prophecy uses **Revelation Chapter 18** to show that the United States is really "Babylon the Great, Mother of Harlots."

The reason this symbol is the most widely accepted symbol of the United States is because the shoe seems to fit. Consider the evidence offered in support of this view, because it is compelling. **Revelation 18:2** opens with the angelic declaration that "Babylon the Great is fallen."

Verse 3 describes Babylon the great thusly: "all the nations of the earth have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornications with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies." This doesn't seem to be much of a reach, on first glance.

America has sunk to moral depths scarcely imaginable a generation ago. We kill babies in the womb when they are socially inconvenient. The nuclear family is all but extinct. Morals are situational, if they are relevant at all. We choose as entertainment stories about adultery, fornication, violence and virtually every form of evil.

We are the world's leading exporters of filth and pornography, not to mention being the world's largest arms dealer and exporter of destruction and mayhem. Politically, we have just emerged from one of the most shameful and immoral presidential campaign in living memory.

The description goes on, referencing the fact she "sits as a queen and no widow." One could argue the U.S. sits as a queen (it's probably more politically correct than a king, anyway) and no widow, as America has seen no war on her shores in living memory. Since the Apostle John also refers to the fact that "ships and sailors and as many as trade by sea" will see the city burning, this view makes New York City Babylon the Great.

The original Babylon still stands, in Iraq, but nowhere near the sea. And, just outside New York City is the city of Babylon, N.Y.! So, there you have it! And it all seems to make sense, really. Provided you are looking at prophecy as if it were given from the perspective of Washington. But it isn't.

In Bible prophecy everything orients from Israel. John's vision of the apocalypse is from the perspective of Israel, during the time of Jacob's trouble, not America's. But the most conclusive reason is given in **Revelation 17:18**.

John says Mystery Babylon is really a woman -- that great harlot who will reign over the cities from earth. But John wrote that the great city was clearly Rome, and that is the city that will reign over the earth in the last days (<http://www.rapturealert.com/americanbibleprophecy.html>).

I believe that Hal Lindsey is correct in his assessment of this. The authors of this "America is the beast" viewpoint look at superficial parallels and ignore that this prophecy is very much rooted in history and other fulfilled prophecies given in the Book of Daniel.

In **Daniel 2** we read about a great dream that Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, had that Daniel interpreted for him. God had given a vision about the great empires to come right up until the return of Jesus Christ. It was a prophecy of four great kingdoms to rule the ancient world. Daniel explained the meaning of his dream this way:

You, O king, *are* a king of kings...you *are* this head of gold. But after you shall arise another kingdom inferior to yours; then another, a third kingdom of bronze, which shall rule over all the earth. And the fourth kingdom shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, *that kingdom* will break in pieces and crush all the others (**Daniel 2:36-40**).

In **Daniel 7** we read that Daniel had a dream of these four great kingdoms but instead of seeing a statue of a man made of gold, silver, bronze and iron like Nebuchadnezzar did, he saw four wild beasts – a lion, a bear, a leopard with four heads and a wild beast more terrible than the other three.

These four great ancient empires are plainly identified from history as -:

- 1] The Babylonian Empire (625 – 539 BC)
- 2] The Medo-Persian Empire (539 - 330 BC)
- 3] The Greco-Macedonian or Greek Empire (333 – 31 BC)
- 4] The Roman Empire (31 BC – 476 AD)

In **Revelation 13** we read about a beast that is a combination of the four wild animals in **Daniel 7**. The Apostle John in his vision wrote:

Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having **seven heads and ten horns**, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name.

"Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like *the feet of* a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority (**Revelation 13:1-2**).

If we count up the number of heads and horns of the four wild beasts of **Daniel 7** we come up with seven heads (remembering the leopard has four heads) and ten horns – the same number of heads and horns of the beast of **Revelation 13**.

The first three wild animals of **Daniel 7** were a lion, bear and a leopard and the beast of Revelation has the mouth of a lion, the feet of a bear and is like a leopard. It is obvious from these facts that the beast of **Revelation 13** is a composite of the four great empires pictured by the four wild beasts of **Daniel 7**.

Herbert W. Armstrong wrote that the Roman Empire:

...absorbed all the others, occupied all their territory, was greater and stronger than all. It included all the royal splendor of ancient Babylon, thus having the head -- the strongest part -- of the lion. It had all the massiveness and numerically powerful army of the Persian Empire -- symbolized by the legs, the most powerful part of the bear. It was the greatest war-making machine the world had ever seen, and it also possessed the swiftness, the cunning, the cruelty of Alexander's army, symbolized by the leopard" (Who and What is the Prophetic Beast, p.8).

Now the Roman Empire fell in 476 AD and yet this great beast is prophesied to dominate the world and make war in the Great Tribulation to occur in our day leading up to the return of Jesus Christ. How do we explain this? In **Daniel 2:40-44** we read:

"And the fourth kingdom [the Roman Empire] shall be as strong as iron, inasmuch as iron breaks in pieces and shatters everything; and like iron that crushes, *that kingdom* will break in pieces and crush all the others...as the toes of the feet *were* partly of iron and partly of clay, so the kingdom shall be partly strong and partly fragile...

"And in the days of these kings [pictured by the ten toes] the God of heaven will set up a kingdom [the stone cut without hands that smashed the toes and then the rest of the great image] which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people; it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever."

The two legs of iron symbolize the Western and Eastern divisions of the Roman Empire. The ten toes are an extension or revival of the Roman Empire (a United Europe) that will exist at the time that Jesus Christ returns and sets up the Kingdom of God on earth.

In **Revelation 17** we read of another beast. The Apostle John in his vision wrote:

And I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast *which was* full of names of blasphemy, having **seven heads and ten horns**. The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the filthiness of her fornication. And on her forehead a name *was* written: **MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH**. I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement...

The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits [Rome is known as the city of seven hills]. **There are also seven kings [or kingdoms]. Five have fallen, one is, and the other has not yet come.** And when he comes, he must continue a short time. And the beast that was, and is not, is himself also the eighth (the original Roman Empire plus seven revivals), and is of the seven, and is going to perdition.

The ten horns which you saw are ten kings who have received no kingdom as yet, but they receive authority for one hour as kings with the beast. These are of one mind, and they will give their power and authority to the beast. These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them (**Revelation 17:3-6, 9-14**).

The ten horns of the **Revelation 17** beast represent the same thing as the ten toes of Daniel 2 – ten rulers and/or nations that give their power to a great end-time ruler over the final revival of the Roman Empire that will be based in Europe. They will make war with Jesus Christ at His return and be defeated by Him.

But what of the seven heads of the beast of **Revelation 17**? The seven heads are seven kingdoms and it is said of those that “five have fallen, one is and one is yet to come.”

**ALL** seven heads (seven kingdoms) are controlled by the fallen woman which rides her according to Revelation 17:9. A correct identification of this fallen woman will lead us to a correct understanding of the seven kingdoms mentioned here.

A woman is a symbol of a church (**2 Corinthians 11:2, Revelation 19:7, Ephesians 5:22-27**) and this is a great false church who rides or controls this beast. The Catholic Church has dominated all the revivals of the Roman Empire since the Imperial Restoration of Justinian in 554 AD. She is a mother church and the Catholics have spawned many daughter churches and false doctrines.

Before the Imperial Restoration in 554 AD there were three foreign barbarian kingdoms that ruled Rome – the Vandals, the Heruli and the Ostrogoths. These three foreign barbarian kingdoms believed in a form of Arianism which differed from the Catholic Church's view of God as a trinity. Because of this difference of belief they were successively driven out of Rome at the behest of the papacy. After those three barbarian kingdoms there have been six more so far with one yet to come.

The six revivals controlled by the Catholic Church include Justinian's Byzantine empire, Charlemagne's empire, the Holy Roman Empire from Otto the Great, the Hapsburg dynasty, Napoleon's European empire and the Axis powers under Hitler and Mussolini. One is yet to come and is already in the process of forming with the developments we are seeing with the European Union.

**DANIEL 2 (GREAT IMAGE)**

Head of **GOLD** (Babylon)  
 Arms of **SILVER** (Persia)  
 Belly of **BRASS** (Greece)  
 Legs of **IRON** (Rome)  
**10 TOES** of **IRON & CLAY**  
 (Final Revival of Roman Empire)  
 formed from ten nations)

**REVELATION 13**

**BEAST with 7 heads and 10 horns**  
 (Rome and its 10 revivals)  
**7 HEADS** (Composite of the  
 four great empires)  
**10 HORNS** (10 successive revivals  
 of the Roman Empire including  
 3 barbarian kingdoms)

**DANIEL 7 (FOUR BEASTS)**

**LION** (Babylon)  
**BEAR** (Persia)  
**LEOPARD with 4 heads** (Greece)  
**BEAST with 10 horns** (Rome)  
**10 HORNS** (10 successive revivals  
 of the Roman Empire including  
 3 barbarian kingdoms)

**REVELATION 17**

**BEAST with 7 heads and 10 horns**  
 (Rome and its 7 revivals after the barbarians)  
**7 HEADS** (The 7 revivals after the barbarians)  
**10 HORNS** (Final Revival of Roman Empire  
 formed from ten nations)

**TEN ROMAN REVIVALS**

1. Vandals (429-533)
2. Heruli (476-493)
3. Ostrogoths (493-554)
4. Justinian (554)
5. Charlemagne (800)
6. Otto the Great (962)
7. Hapsburg Dynasty (1500's)
8. Napoleon (1800)
9. Mussolini-Hitler (1939-1945)
10. United Europe still to come

Nothing about America fits the seven successive kingdoms which are the heads of the beast of **Revelation 17** and nothing about America points to ten kings who give authority to the beast and actually fight Jesus Christ at His return!

Others believe that the Beast will be based in Rome but be a world government that includes America as part of a new world order being promoted by politicians such as prominent American presidents. In my article analysing the new world order viewpoint (<http://rogerswebsite.com/articles/Just-what-will-be-the-New-World-Order.pdf>) I analyse the belief that there will be a world government led by the beast leader who evangelicals refer to as the Antichrist.

The next view is one promoted by Steve Wohlberg, who I believe is a Seventh-Day Adventist, and that is that America is the second beast mentioned in **Revelation 13**. Steve writes the following:

Is America mentioned in Bible prophecy, or has God's Word overlooked the world's only superpower?

Many prophecy writers emphatically state we're not there. They see the US fading into oblivion under a supposedly future New World Order dominated by the United Nations. In this article I want to give you something different to think about. I want to suggest the possibility that America is the exact power specifically mentioned in this mysterious verse:

"Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon" (**Revelation 13:11**).

Allow me to build my case. First, what is a "beast"? Answer: A great nation. The proof's in **Daniel 7** – a chapter that clearly parallels **Revelation 13**. Both chapters talk about beasts, ten horns, a mouth speaking great things, and war on the saints (see **Daniel 7:3-8, 21 and Revelation 13:1-7**).

**Daniel 7** describes four beasts: the lion, bear, leopard and dragon-like beast. An angelic interpreter confirmed:

"The fourth beast shall be the fourth kingdom on earth" (**Daniel 7:23**).

So we can nail this down: According to Scripture, a beast isn't a computer or super-evil person, but a kingdom. That's what the angel said. Historically, 98% of Christian scholars have interpreted Daniel's four beasts to represent the ancient nations of Babylon, Persia, Greece, and Rome.

Back to **Revelation 13:11**:

"I saw another beast coming out of the earth."

Thus John saw a great nation rising. From where? "Out of the earth." Daniel's beasts all rose from the sea (see **Daniel 7:3-7**). Water in prophecy represents multitudes of people. Another angel confirmed:

"The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations and tongues" (**Revelation 17:15**).

Babylon, Persia, Greece and Rome all rose from the midst of a sea of peoples in Europe and the Middle East. Not so with the beast in **Revelation 13:11** – it comes from the earth. This points to a great nation rising out of a sparsely inhabited area.

"I saw another beast coming out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb" (**Revelation 13:11**).

Thus we have a new nation, with Christian features, rising out of a sparsely inhabited area, with a government without kingly power.

Each word is significant. The true Lamb is Jesus Christ. "Like a lamb," indicates this nation would have lamb-like or Christian features. A lamb is a young animal, a baby sheep. Thus this nation would at one time be youthful and new. Significantly, its "two horns" have no crowns like the first beast in **Revelation 13:2**. Crowns represent kingly power. Thus we have a new nation, with Christian features, rising out of a sparsely inhabited area, with a government without kingly power. Are the pieces coming together yet?

Here's the shocker: **Revelation 13** also reveals that this exact nation will finally achieve superpower status during the last moments of time, make a major mistake, and lead out in the global enforcement of the mark of the beast. God's Word reports:

"And he [the lamb-like beast] causes [he resorts to force] all [his power becomes global], both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand or in their forehead, that no man might buy or sell [the world's economy is involved] except the one who has the mark" (**Revelation 13:16,17**).

These verses parallel the last part of **Revelation 13:11** describing the final, tragic act of the lamb-like beast – "he spoke like a dragon." Let's put all the pieces together:

**Revelation 13:11** predicts the rising of a great beast.  
In prophecy, a beast represents a great nation.  
This nation comes out of the earth, or wilderness area.  
This nation starts out young, like a baby lamb.  
This nation is lamb-like, with Christian characteristics.  
This nation has horns with no crowns—it has no kings.  
This nation achieves superpower status near the end of time.  
This nation influences the world's economy.  
This nation finally speaks like a dragon.  
This nation finally enforces the mark of the first beast in **Revelation 13:2**.

Be honest: How many nations on Planet Earth fit each of these clear, unquestionable, Heaven-inspired details? Only one. The United States of America.

God has blessed America. Yet prophecy predicts major changes will someday envelop our beloved country and our eyes should be wide open to even now discern the proverbial writing on the wall.

When the leading churches of the United States, uniting upon such points of doctrine as are held by them in common, shall influence the state to enforce their decrees and to sustain their institutions, then Protestant America will have formed an image of the Roman hierarchy, and the infliction of civil penalties upon dissenters will inevitably result.

The beast with two horns "causeth [commands] all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: and that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name." **Revelation 13:16, 17**.

The third angel's warning is: "If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand, the same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God." "The beast" mentioned in this message, whose worship is enforced by the two-horned beast, is the first, or leopardlike beast of **Revelation 13** - the papacy. The "image to the beast" represents that form of apostate Protestantism

which will be developed when the Protestant churches shall seek the aid of the civil power for the enforcement of their dogmas. The "mark of the beast" still remains to be defined (<http://www.whitehorsemedia.com/articles/details.cfm?art=26>).

Again there are some interesting parallels between America and this second beast just as there are between America and the Babylon the Great. However just as there were also stark differences between American and the first beast of **Revelation 13** so are there big differences between America and the second beast of **Revelation 13**.

While these horns may not have crowns we do know from scripture that a horn represents a king or kingdom and that this second beast has two of them. America is a single nation not a dual or double kingdom. The way that church and state are being so radically separated, especially with the far left judgments of the Supreme Court, the idea that the religious right of America will gain enough control of America to enforce religious laws is unlikely in the extreme.

**Revelation 13:12** says that the second beast causes people to worship the first beast. How would America cause people to worship some other great nation?

**Revelation 13:13-14** says that it performs miracles and causes fire to come down from heaven to earth. Again this hardly describes America.

This parallels **2 Thessalonians 2:8-9** where it speaks of the man of sin who parallels the false prophet spoken of together with the beast leader in **Revelation 20:10**.

Throughout the Book of Revelation you see a satanically-inspired church-state combination – the first and second beasts of **Revelation 13**, the beast of **Revelation 17** and the woman who rides the beast and the beast leader and false prophet spoken of in **Revelation 20:10**. The Bible is consistent.

The Roman Catholic Church fits all the characteristics of the second beast. It will encourage allegiance to the "Holy Roman Empire". Its religious leader, referred to as the man of sin in **2 Thessalonians 2:8-9**, will have miracle-working powers. It appears like a lamb – Christian – but speaks as a dragon being a false church. The two horns may well represent the Western Catholic Church and an Eastern Orthodox Church if we see some coming together of the two churches which has been negotiated in recent years.

John Rittenbaugh of the Church of the Great God believes that Europe is the Beast of **Revelation 17** but that for now she is ridden or controlled by America who he believes is the great harlot, the woman who rides the beast and that in the end Europe turns on the America just as **Revelation 17:16** says the beast will turn on the harlot.

This idea that the Israelite nations, America in particular, is the woman that rides the beast called "Mystery, Babylon the Great, the Mother of Harlots and abominations of the earth" is a fairly easy one to disprove but first let's look at one thing that John Rittenbaugh says in his online series on the subject (<http://cgg.org/index.cfm/fuseaction/Library.sr/CT/PERSONAL/k/913/The-Beast-Babylon-Part-Three-Who-Is-Woman.htm>):

We understand that the seven mountains are the last seven revivals of the Roman Empire. The woman is shown riding the Beast during the days of the sixth revival in the sequence of seven (**verse 10**).

**Did she begin her ride during the sixth revival or has she been riding the entire time? Nothing in the prophecy directly suggests she was riding them any time before the prophecy itself indicates.**

Notice firstly that John has no problems acknowledging that the seven heads of the beast of **Revelation 17** are the seven mountains which are the seven last revivals of the Roman Empire. Then he says that there is nothing in the prophecy to suggest she was riding any of them prior to the last revival. Is this true? Let's look at the verse prior to the one he quotes above:

**The seven heads are seven mountains, on which the woman sits.**

And there are seven kings: five are fallen, and one is, *and* the other is not yet come; and when he comes, he must continue a short space (**Revelation 17:9-10**).

**Verse 9** clearly shows that the Woman rides all seven mountains or revivals of the Roman Empire. Has America ever done that? Clearly the answer is no. Only the Roman Catholic Church has ridden the revivals of the Roman Empire.

There is no doubt that Europe has to transform dramatically to become the military and economic powerhouse described in Revelation as the Beast power. The Euro is much more gold-backed than the greenback and consequently Europe will be in a much better position to recover from any future worldwide economic collapse which could possibly be the mortal wound from which the Beast is healed.

While a woman can be used as a symbol for a nation as he points out it is also a symbol for a church (**2 Corinthians 11:2, Ephesians 5:31-33, Revelation 19:7-9**).

John makes the mistake of assuming that Babylon can only be a nation and not a church. While certainly it is primarily described as political and economic power in **Revelation 18** that is not all there is to it as Babylon has a religious element to it as well. It is a combination of an anti-God religious, political and economic system.

Even John acknowledges that Babylon can have a religious element to it:

Mystery, Babylon the Great is not a church, but does she have a religious component to her? Absolutely!

If he acknowledges that then why can't the Woman also be a church as part of a combined religious, political and economic system called Babylon which has a degree of duality to it?

If he rejects that Europe will play a vital role in the prophecies of the conquests noted earlier how does he view what major battles will occur in the Great Tribulation?

He claims that the harlots that the Woman is the mother of can only refer to those who have broken their covenant relationship with God.

While this is a correct term used for those of Israel who did break their covenant relationship in the Old Testament it isn't necessarily limited to that. A harlot was a term used for temple prostitutes of pagan religions who never had any covenant relationship with God and there is nothing in the way that the term is used in **Revelation 17** to indicate those harlots had to have had any prior covenant with God.

Babylon's fall is described as occurring at the end of the Tribulation in **Revelation 18** whereas other prophecies indicate that the Israelite nations will go into captivity at the beginning of the Tribulation. This shows Babylon is not America but is the church-state combination of the Woman and the Beast power identified previously as the Roman Catholic Church and the coming United Europe.

Let's look at three Old Testament passages which some Protestant / Evangelicals believe refer to America. The first is the unnamed nation in **Isaiah 18**. Hal Lindsey says the following about this view:

Some point to **Isaiah 18**, which speaks of a people "tall and smooth" who are "feared far and wide." The passage says these people are "a powerful nation whose land the rivers divide" that will one day bring gifts to the Messiah when He reigns from Mount Zion.

Those who hold this view, point to the fact the United States is divided by the Mississippi, to America's power and say we are the people "feared far and wide" of whom Isaiah was speaking. But this view only works if you ignore the first verse of Chapter 18. It clearly identifies the powerful nation divided by a river as Cush, or Ethiopia. At the time of Isaiah, Ethiopia was part of the Egyptian empire and the river referred to is without doubt the Nile (<http://www.rapturealert.com/americanbibleprophecy.html>).

One online article entitled "America in Bible Prophecy" (<http://www.foxven.com/vcmr.html>) has these comments about the same passage:

Let us consider other scriptures that might refer to America. In **Isaiah 18** there are two identical descriptions of an unidentified nation. In **verses 2 and 7**, it describes "a people tall and smooth-skinned,...a people feared far and wide, an aggressive nation of strange speech, whose land is divided by rivers." That is a pretty good description of today's America. **Verse 7** is a very vague prophecy about that nation sending gifts to the Lord Almighty, to Mount Zion. Even if it does refer to America, it only means that the nation sends gifts. It gives little indication of the country's condition, except that it is aggressive and widely feared. This passage may not even pertain to the end times .

Another view is that America is one of the young lions spoken of in **Ezekiel 38:13**. On this view Hal Lindsey writes:

Another view says that America is identified by the prophet Ezekiel in **Ezekiel 38:13**. Ezekiel speaks of the "merchants of Tarshish and all the young lions thereof" who launch a diplomatic protest at the time of the Gog-Magog invasion of Israel. Some point to the fact that Tarshish was the westernmost trading and seafaring nation of the ancient world. From there, Tarshish becomes Britain. After all, Britain is the westernmost point on the Continent. And the symbol of Britain is a lion. Consequently, "all the young lions thereof" become the former British colonies, like Australia, Canada and, of course, the United States. Therefore, ipso facto, the merchants of Tarshish and all the young lions thereof must be referring to America.

But this doesn't work, either. First and foremost, nobody can pinpoint with any degree of accuracy the location of Tarshish. The only thing we are sure of is that it isn't Britain. The most recent archeological evidence puts ancient Tarshish in Spain,

which, while close, doesn't quite win the cigar (<http://www.rapturealert.com/americanbibleprophecy.html>).

One passage that Hal Lindsey says there is a high possibility that could refer to America is **Ezekiel 39:6**. In "The Late Great Planet Earth" he writes:

A fearful thing is predicted as occurring at the time of the Red Army's destruction. God says, "I will send fire on Magog [Russia] and upon those who dwell securely [false hope] in the coastlands [various continents]..." (**Ezekiel 39:6 Amplified**).

According to this, Russia, as well as many countries who thought they were secure under the Antichrist's protection, will have fire fall upon them. Once again, this could be a direct judgment from God, or God could allow the various countries to launch a nuclear exchange of ballistic missiles upon each other.

The United States may be aligned with the Western forces headed by the ten-nation Revived Roman Empire of Europe. It is clear that the U.S. cannot be the leader of the West in the future. It is quite possible that Ezekiel was referring to the U.S. in part when he said: "I will send fire - upon those who dwell securely in the coastlands"...

According to the prophetic outlook the United States will cease being the leader of the West and; will probably become in some way a part of the new European sphere of power...**We realize that the United States is not mentioned in the Bible.** However, it is certain that the leadership of the West must shift to Rome, in its revived form, and if the U.S. is still around at that time, it will not be the power it now is (p.161, 95-96).

In the section earlier where we looked at the prophecies of **Ezekiel 38 and 39** we clearly saw that this was an early millennial prophecy of an Asiatic alliance that attacks Israel once she is resettled in Palestine after her captivity in the Tribulation.

It is true that America will cease to be the leader in the West in the Great Tribulation which we will see shortly. He states emphatically that America is not mentioned in the Bible. Not by her current name at least. We will see shortly that she is referred to in scores of prophecies that refer to her by another name in Bible prophecy.

Like Hal Lindsey, Mark Hitchcock also holds the opinion that the Bible is silent about America in its prophecies but says that the silence provides us with an important clue about what happens to America in the end time. In his book "Is America in Bible Prophecy?" he writes:

As much as we desire to know about America's future from Bible prophecy, we have to face the fact that our nation is not clearly referred to. Noted prophecy expert Tim LaHaye observes: "One of the hardest things for American prophecy students to accept is that the United States is not clearly mentioned in Bible prophecy, yet our nation is the only superpower in the world today."

It would be nice if Scripture clearly laid out the role of the United States in the last days, but the silence of Scripture on this subject may tell us more than we realize. The sounds of silence may actually provide us with the crucial clue concerning the place of America in the last days.

If America is not specifically referred to in any Bible prophecies, how should we interpret this scriptural silence? I cannot speak with certainty at this point, but I can make some educated guesses. I believe we can choose from four basic options.

**Option 1 is that America will still be a powerful nation in the last days, but the Lord simply chose not to mention her specifically.**

This is possible, but it seems unlikely. In Scripture, the dominant political and military power in the end times is centered in the Mediterranean and in Europe. The scriptural silence concerning America seems to indicate that by the time the tribulation period arrives, America will no longer be a major influence in the world.

John Walvoord, one of the foremost experts in Bible prophecy, agrees:

“Although conclusions concerning the role of America in prophecy in the end time are necessarily tentative, the Scriptural evidence is sufficient to conclude that America in that day will not be a major power and apparently does not figure largely in either the political, economic, or religious aspects of the world.”

Of course, this raises another very important question: How can this be? America is the major player in the world today in every arena; what will happen to reduce her to a subordinate role in world affairs? If the scriptural silence indicates that America will be a relatively unimportant nation in the end times, how will America fall?

The other three options address this issue.

**Option 2 is that America is not mentioned specifically in Scripture because she will be destroyed by other nations. She will suffer a fall from the outside.**

Those who hold to this theory are quick to point to the notion that America will be crippled by a nuclear attack. However, in recent days the terrorist attacks on our nation have led some to conclude that our own freedom and technology will be the Achilles' heel that brings us down.

**Option 3 is that America is not mentioned in Bible prophecy because she will have lost her influence as a result of moral and spiritual deterioration. She will suffer a fall from the inside.**

As you can imagine, this is a very popular view today in light of the moral malaise we see all around us. Proponents of this view have no trouble citing alarming statistics related to drug use, alcoholism, teen pregnancy, children born out of wedlock, divorce, pornography, abortion, homosexuality, and on and on.

**Option 4** is the subject of the next chapter. Any of these first three options is certainly possible, but there is a fourth option that I believe best explains the silence concerning America in the Scriptures. I think you will find it quite interesting...

If America will not fall from within due to her moral corruption or from without by nuclear attack or terrorism, how do we explain the fact that America seems to be such a second-rate nation in the last days that it does not even warrant specific mention in the Bible?...

Israel is pictured in Scripture as a thriving nation in the end times. Therefore, unless the world scene changes dramatically, I believe that America will remain strong as a nation until the beginning of the end times. Until the Rapture, the United States will continue to serve as Israel's chief ally.

Second, we know from Scripture that after the Rapture, the Antichrist will come to Israel's side and make a seven-year treaty with her (see **Daniel 9:27**). But where is America in that scenario? Why aren't we around as Israel's great protector?

Evidently, Antichrist and his European empire will replace America as Israel's chief ally and as the major world power (see **Daniel 2:44-45; 7:23-25**). This strong

presence of Europe indicates to me that something will have happened to America that shifts world power back to Europe.

Third, if America remains strong up to the time of the Rapture but is then replaced by Europe as the world's superpower, what does this tell us?

**I believe it tells us that America will be brought to her knees by the Rapture. The Rapture is the key. The Rapture will change everything. There's an old saying: "Nature abhors a vacuum." I believe the Rapture will produce a power vacuum and into it will step the Antichrist and his reunited Roman Empire.**

Think about it. If the Rapture were to happen today and all the true believers in Jesus Christ were whisked away to heaven in a split second, America would be devastated. Consider these most recent statistics from Barna Research Online:

- 85 percent of Americans claim to be "Christians." This group is often identified as "cultural Christians."
- 41 percent of Americans claim to be "born again Christians"; this is a subset of the broad "Christian" group.
- 8 percent of American adults identify themselves as "evangelical Christians." This group is a subset of the "born-again" group; the main factor in this category is a belief that salvation is by faith in Christ alone, without human works. According to Barna, this represents about 15 to 20 million American adults; adding in children, the number could easily climb to 25 to 30 million.

In his book *Operation World*, Patrick Johnstone records the number of evangelical Christians in America as 23 percent of the total population. The 2000 census found that the total population of America is 281,421,906. Using Johnstone's percentage, the total number of believers in America is about 65 million.

So at the Rapture, America will lose somewhere between 25 and 65 million citizens: Christians and their small children. The impact of such a disappearance will be nothing short of cataclysmic. Not only would our country lose a minimum of 10 percent of her population, but she would also lose the very best, the "salt and light" of this great land (see **Matthew 5:13-14**).

The same cannot be legitimately said of any other nation in the world...The economic fluctuations of the eighties and even the Great Depression will pale in comparison to the political and economic collapse that will occur when our society suddenly loses individuals who were its "salt and light." America could not support an army in the Middle East because the military would be needed at home to control the chaos!

The Rapture may well be the end of America as we know it. Those who miss out on the Rapture in the United States will be left behind to pick up the pieces (p.61-72).

Personally I almost fell out of my chair with laughter when I read that. We've already in a previous section looked at the distinct lack of Biblical evidence for such a rapture.

Paul said that the first resurrection occurs at the "last trumpet" (**1 Corinthians 15:52**), that is the seventh trumpet mentioned in **Revelation 11** at the end of the Great Tribulation where the angel who blows it says it is time for God to "give the reward to Your servants the prophets, and to the saints" (**verse 18**). In other words, to resurrect them.

Terry James, who shares Hitchcocks point of view, says the following in his online article "America in Bible Prophecy" (<http://www.raptureready.com/rr-america.html>):

Much of the stable, tax-paying base will be removed in that stupefying moment. Its worker-base will be so severely disrupted that it won't come close to resembling the economic powerhouse it was the moment before the rapture. This, because America has, it is quite safe to presume—the highest percentage of Christians of any nation of significant population.

The politicians and powers that be within governmental and business bureaucracies will flail wildly, trying to bring their turfdoms back into some semblance of order. It will be a task that will be impossible without the most extreme, draconian measures. Ultimately, I'm convinced, these political and governmental powers will readily agree to come under the auspices of the much more stable European Union.

This assumes that the number of people raptured would be high. If only half of the evangelical christian group are truly devoted that would bring the potential rapturees down to 4 percent which would not make the same kind of dent on American society that Mark Hitchcock claims will occur.

I actually wrote to Mark and pointed out some of the scriptures that showed that the rapture is not supported by the Bible. What was quite humorous was that the person who handled his email at the publishing company wrote back and agreed with me though I never heard from Mark directly.

Mark did use good logic to show the possibilities though I disagree with the one he came up with. What will happen is option 2 – a fall or conquest from an outside power though option 3, a moral and spiritual degradation, is already happening now.

The one Protestant / Evangelical writer who comes closest to showing what will happen to America and why is Chuck Missler.

He sees a parallel between America and the Northern Kingdom of Israel and says America will suffer the same fate as America as a nation is eerily similar in character to the Northern Kingdom of Israel.

The point he just misses, though he is so close, is that America is descended from the very same people and the end-time prophecies about the Northern Kingdom refer to America and the English speaking peoples.

In his book "Prophecy 20/20" Chuck Missler writes:

The other most frequent question I get as I travel before many audiences is, why hasn't God judged America? There is a widespread expectation that America is overdue. Billy Graham's memorable quip many years ago sums it up: "If God doesn't judge America, He'll have to apologize to Sodom and Gomorrah."

Thomas Jefferson also summarized it well in 1781: "I tremble for my country when I reflect that God is just; and that His justice cannot sleep forever."

What does the Bible have to say about this?

As was mentioned earlier in Chapter 7, prophecy is more than simply prediction and fulfillment. That is the Greek model. To the Hebrew mind, prophecy is also pattern. And much of what we learn emerges from patterns in the Bible: types, analogies, and so forth. There is a most provocative-and relevant-example in the book of Hosea.

## THE NORTHERN KINGDOM

After the death of Solomon, the nation of Israel divided into two: the Northern Kingdom under Jeroboam, and the Southern Kingdom under Rehoboam, the son of Solomon. The history and destiny of the Northern Kingdom occupies a significant portion of both the historical books and the writings of the prophets.

Under the leadership of Jeroboam, the standing army had regained extensive territories previously lost. The Northern Kingdom experienced an unprecedented material prosperity. Many of the people enjoyed second homes. It was, in their eyes, the best of times.

However, from God's point of view, it was the worst of times. God commissioned Hosea, a prophet from the south, to travel to the north to deliver His assessment.' They had exchanged their loyalty to their heritage for idol worship. The results were the lowest ebb of immorality of their history, which was characterized by social injustice, violent crime, religious hypocrisy, political rebellion, selfish arrogance, and spiritual ingratitude. Although a loving and caring God had provided their abundance and prosperity, their sin, disloyalty, and abandonment of Him would force Him to vindicate His justice with judgment. Therefore, God was going to use their enemies as His instrument of judgment. Soon they would be gone.

And they were: in 722 BC, the Assyrians wiped them off the pages of history.

## AN AMERICAN PARALLEL?

Our material prosperity is the envy of the world. You can't walk the street without seeing a telephone in someone's ear. You can hardly find a home without at least one computer. Many families are buying their third or fourth car. Most people would argue that we are enjoying the best of times.

However, things appear quite different when viewed through God's eyes. God rebuked Israel for its brutality, murder, and warfare. We have had Waco and Columbine High School (generic idioms for the syndrome in today's culture). New York City has recorded more crimes in one year than England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, Switzerland, Spain, Sweden, the Netherlands, Norway, and Denmark combined.

Where is the most dangerous place for an American to be? In his mother's womb. His chances are one in four of being murdered. We've had 48 million deaths since Roe v. Wade, and 127 million births. We murder babies that are socially inconvenient. (If these children had been allowed to go to school, then entered the workforce and formed families, there wouldn't be a shortfall in our Social Security System.)

We regard homosexuality as simply an alternative lifestyle. We change marriage partners like a fashion statement. Our politics have condoned and covered up more murders than we dare list. Our public enterprises have been prostituted to the convenience of the elite. Our entertainment industry celebrates adultery, fornication, violence, aberrant sexual practices, and every imaginable form of evil. We have become the primary exporters of everything that God abhors.

In an Index of Leading Cultural Indicators, over the last thirty years, the United States has experienced a 560 percent increase in violent crime, a 400 percent increase in illegitimate births, a 400 percent increase in the divorce rate, a 300 percent increase in single-parent homes, a 200 percent increase in teenage suicides, and a 75 percent drop in SAT scores.' The deterioration of each of these indicators-and dozens of others-can be traced to the year that we outlawed the Bible out of our schools.'

Each day in America, 2,795 teen pregnancies are conceived, 1,106 of those aborted, and 4,219 teenagers contract a sexually transmitted disease. Every sixty-four

seconds, a baby is born to a teenage mother, and every six minutes, a baby is born to a teenager who already has a child.

In our public schools, creationism cannot be taught because it requires a belief in God; morality cannot be taught because it requires reference to the Bible; traditional history cannot be taught because it speaks of the important place that God and our religious values had throughout the entire record of human affairs. Reading the Bible is against the law. However, we do require, in some schools, the Koran to be read and its passages memorized.

Throughout the Bible, certain periods were characterized as those in which "every man did that which was right in his own eyes:" These were the times of unprecedented immorality. The denial of the very existence of absolute truth is the characteristic of our current culture.

When people ask me, "Where is the United States in the Bible?" I often point them to Isaiah 5. There Isaiah details six descriptive "Woes" that lead to national disaster: materialism (v. 8), alcoholism (v. 11), gay pride parades (v. 18), value relativism (v. 20), the arrogance of the elite (v. 21), and the compromise of justice (v. 23). Read that chapter yourself to see how God deals with them; a summary paraphrase doesn't do the passage justice.

If there is a valid parallel between the predicament of the Northern Kingdom and America, let's keep in mind what Hosea's prognosis was: God was going to use their enemies as His instrument of an overdue judgment. The possible parallel is chilling.

There is a further consideration. The Bible indicates that God's Word does "not return void": "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it" (Isa. 55:11).

One could argue that Hosea's message to the Northern Kingdom did not accomplish anything. Certainly not the repentance of the Northern Kingdom. What did it accomplish?

Is it possible that there is an intended application to America? Could Hosea's message be also directed toward us?

If so, then, why hasn't God judged America? The only apparent answer for God's forbearance would seem to be found in His commitment to His people Israel: "And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed" (Gen. 12:2-3).

The fact that America - somewhat uniquely - has supported Israel's right to exist would seem to be the primary reason that God hasn't brought an overdue judgment. This is a widespread view among many experts who take the Bible seriously (p.245-249).

The reason that America has supported Israel is the fact that America and the Jews of the nation called Israel are, in fact, kin.

Chuck Missler is spot on with applying the moral failures of end-time Israel with America and will indeed judge America for her sins before dealing with the modern-day Assyrians (the end-time Beast power) who will be the rod of God anger in punishing end-time Israel (**Isaiah 10:5, 20**)

What proof is there that America and the Jews are both Israel?

God chose Abraham and promised to develop his descendants into a group of influential nations chosen for the purpose of teaching and illustrating His values and way of life to the rest of the world (**Genesis 12:1-3, 17:5-6**). These promises were passed down through Isaac and Jacob.

All of Jacob's 12 sons would share in the blessings promised to Abraham but the double portion of this birthright was passed onto Joseph's sons, Ephraim and Manasseh.

In **Genesis 35:11** God said to Jacob:

I am God Almighty. Be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall proceed from you, and kings shall come from your body.

This part of the birthright promise was passed onto Joseph's sons, Ephraim and Manasseh in **Genesis 48:19**:

He (Manasseh) also shall become a people, and he also shall be great; but truly his younger brother (Ephraim) shall be greater than he, and his descendants shall become a multitude of nations.

In **Genesis 49** Jacob gave prophecies about what the descendants of each of his 12 sons would be like in the end-time before Christ's return. About Joseph he said:

Joseph is like a grapevine that produces much fruit, a healthy vine watered by a spring, whose branches grow over the wall. Archers attack him violently and shoot at him angrily, but he aims his bow well. His arms are made strong. He gets his power from the Mighty God of Jacob and his strength from the Shepherd, the Rock of Israel. Your father's God helps you. God Almighty blesses you. He blesses you with rain from above, with water from springs below, with many babies born to your wives, and many young ones born to your animals. The blessings of your father are greater than the blessings of the oldest mountains, greater than the good things of the long-lasting hills. May these blessings rest on the head of Joseph" (**Genesis 49:22-26**, New Century Version).

This prophetic passage tells us that Joseph's descendants 'in the last days' will live in a productive, well-watered and fruitful land. They will be a people who have greatly expanded their territory and influence - politically, militarily, economically and culturally - a people 'whose branches grow over the wall,' or beyond their natural borders.

They will be a people that, on occasion, will be attacked by other nations but will generally be victorious. Their triumphs will sometimes seem 'miraculous' or 'providential' because the Almighty God is their helper and source of blessings. They will be a people who live in an unusually favourable climate that easily supports their steadily expanding population. They will enjoy the blessing of good crops, vast herds of livestock and extensive natural resources such as fine stands of timber and valuable minerals mined from their soil" (The United States and Britain in Bible Prophecy, p.10-11).

In the days soon after King Solomon, the nation of Israel split into two nations, the Kingdom of Israel and the Kingdom of Judah (from whom the Jews descend). The northern Kingdom of Israel were eventually conquered by Assyria around 722 BC and carried away to Mesopotamia, and have never returned to Palestine, as a nation. They included the birthright tribes of Ephraim and Manasseh and eventually became known as the "Lost Tribes of Israel".

This break up of Israel into two separate nations is missed by most mainstream christian scholars. They assume that all Israelites are Jewish. The Jews descend primarily from one of the twelve sons of Israel (Jacob) – Judah. The Jews were the southern Kingdom of Judah. Jacob had 12 other sons and most of them, including the birthright tribe of Joseph, formed the Northern Kingdom of Israel, separate from the Jews of the Kingdom of Judah.

Only a part of Israel are Jewish just as only a part of America is Californian. Most Israelites are not Jewish just as most Americans are not Californian, only some of them are. Orthodox Jews believe that the northern kingdom was bred out after its exile to Assyria or merged in with the Jews so only the Jews have the birthright. This, however, would negate God's prophecies of Ephraim and Manasseh becoming a great nation and a company of nations which the Jews have never been.

God promised that Ishmael would not go without any blessing. God promised that from him would come a great nation (**Genesis 17:20, 21:18**). This promise was fulfilled a few centuries after the fall of the Roman Empire. In the hundred years that followed the death of Mohammed in 632 the Arabs, with their new religion of Islam, conquered all of North Africa, Spain, the Middle East, Arabia, Persia, Armenia, Afghanistan and a third of India - an empire greater in size than that of the Roman Empire.

If Ishmael becoming a great nation meant an empire larger in area than the Roman Empire then how much greater are the birthright promises that God promised would come through Isaac's descendants? These are promises we have never seen fulfilled in the Jewish people as Judah was promised the sceptre blessing of the royal throne (**Genesis 49:10**) but not the birthright promises which were passed onto Joseph.

The Jews are a Caucasian people. The other brother tribes of Israel therefore would also be Causasian in appearance. If we rule out the slavic Eastern Europeans and the central Europeans, since this is the Gentile kingdom of the Beast power we are left only with the north-west Europeans and the English speaking descendants of Britain in America and British commonwealth. By a process of elimination we are led to the same peoples.

The Jewish Encyclopedia states the following about the connection between the Nordic peoples of NW Europe and the House of Israel:

"The identification of the Sacae, or the Scythians [recognized by most historians as the ancestors of the British peoples] with the Ten Tribes because they appear in history at the **SAME TIME** and very nearly in the **SAME PLACE**, as the Israelites removed by Shalmaneser, is one of the chiefs supports of the theory **which identifies the English people, and indeed the whole Teutonic race, with the Ten Tribes.**

John Wilson in his Languages of Europe states that:

"The basis of the English language may, to a remarkable extent, be found in Hebrew. Many of our most common words, and names of familiar objects, are almost pure Hebrew." The Welsh language today is, in many ways, quite similar to Hebrew.

The very name "British" is derived from Hebrew. The Hebrew word for "covenant" is *beriyth*, or *berith* while the Hebrew word "ish" means man. The word "British" means "covenant man."

The Scottish Declaration of Independence, written in 1320 AD by King Robert the Bruce (who was popularized in the 1995 movie *Braveheart*) states:

"The nation of the Scots has been distinguished by many honours, which passing from **greater Scythia** through the Mediterranean Sea and through the Pillars of Hercules, and sojourning in Spain, amongst the most savage tribes through a long course of time, could nowhere be subjugated by any people, however barbarous, **and coming thence 1200 years after the outgoings of THE PEOPLE OF ISRAEL** they, by their many victories and infinite toil, acquired for themselves the possessions in the west which they now hold."

There is much, much more historical and biblical proof to support the belief that America and Britain descend from ancient Israel.

The United Church of God booklet, "The United States and Britain in Bible Prophecy" goes into much detail showing how they eventually migrated to North-West Europe and how the birthright tribes of Manasseh and Ephraim can be identified as the great nation of America and the company of nations known as the British Commonwealth, just as God had promised to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob thousands of years earlier.

My own booklet "The Time of Jacob's Trouble" (<http://rogerswebsite.com/articles/The-Time-of-Jacobs-Trouble.pdf>) also supplies much historical evidence for this position as well as a deeper investigation into the prophecies of the fate of modern day Israel – America, Britain, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, NW Europe and the Jews of the State of Israel.

The clearest passage of scripture that shows their fate is found in **Jeremiah 30:3-9** where we read:

The days are coming," declares the LORD, "**when I will bring my people Israel AND Judah back from captivity.** I will bring them back to the land that I gave their ancestors, and they will take possession of it."

This is the message that the LORD spoke about Israel **and** Judah: "This is what the LORD says: "We hear cries of fear, cries of panic, not cries of peace. Ask now, and see: Can a man give birth to a child? Why, then, do I see every strong man holding his stomach in pain like a woman giving birth to a child? Why has every face turned pale?"

How terrible that day will be! There will be no other day like it. It will be a time of calamity for the descendants of Jacob, but they will be rescued from it.

"On that day," declares the LORD of Armies, "I will break the yokes off your necks and tear off your ropes. **Foreigners will no longer make you serve them.**

You will serve the LORD your God and David your king. I will establish him for you.

Both kingdoms – the descendants of both the northern Kingdom of Israel (America, Britain, NW Europe) and the southern kingdom of Judah (Jews) will go into captivity in the end time to be punished and humbled because of their hideous sins over the last few decades. The time setting is the Great Tribulation and when they are freed from captivity King David will be raised to be their king under Jesus Christ in the Kingdom of God.

Is America invincible? To most people the idea that a nation or empire could invade and conquer the United States of America is preposterous. But is it really so impossible? When the Titanic set out from England in 1912 on its maiden voyage many people said that the ship was unsinkable. One person was quoted as saying that even God could not sink her but sink she did when she struck an iceberg on her maiden voyage. The great lesson of the sinking of the Titanic is never to be so proud to think of anything human or man-made as unsinkable or invincible. This lesson applies to America as well. Without a major moral course correction God will bring about events that will bring down America and our other Israelite nations.

The ancient Babylonians similarly thought that their city of Babylon was impregnable. The ancient city of Babylon was surrounded by massive double walls. The Babylonians had stored up provisions for many years and could survive a siege indefinitely. When Cyrus' Persian army encamped around the city the Babylonians laughed and feasted. Cyrus, however, had devised an ingenious plan to divert some of the water of the Euphrates that flowed through the city.

Under cover of darkness they were able to wade under the gates and into Babylon. Cyrus had also gotten a spy into Babylon to open a set of gates to let the army into the city. The city and empire of Babylon was conquered overnight by Cyrus who God predicted by name two centuries earlier through the prophet Isaiah. There's an old saying "where there's a will there's a way!" If God determines that a nation is to be punished for its sins He will provide an ingenious way, if needed, to discipline them however He needs to.

What proof is there that it will be the coming European superstate led by Germany that will defeat America and Britain? First of all, please turn with me to **Isaiah 10** we read starting in **verse 5**:

"Woe to **Assyria**, the rod of My anger and the staff in whose hand is My indignation. **I will send him against an ungodly nation, and against the people of My wrath.** I will give him charge, to seize the spoil, to take the prey, and to tread them down like the mire of the streets. Yet he does not mean so, Nor does his heart think so; But *it is* in his heart to destroy, and cut off not a few nations...(dropping down to **verse 12**) Therefore it shall come to pass, when the LORD has performed all His work on Mount Zion and on Jerusalem, *that He will say*, 'I will punish the fruit of the arrogant heart of the king of Assyria, and the glory of his haughty looks" (**Isaiah 10:5-7, 12**).

**Verse 20** gives us the time frame of this captivity of Israel showing it is at the time of the Great Tribulation:

"And it shall come to pass in that day *that* the remnant of Israel, and such as have escaped of the house of Jacob, will never again depend on him who defeated them, but will depend on the LORD, the Holy One of Israel, in truth."

Now who is Assyria in our modern day? Where did the Assyrians migrate to after the Assyrian empire fell?

Pliny the Elder (23-79 A.D.) in the first century spoke of the "Assyriani" of his day NORTH of the Crimea in Russia (Historia Naturalis, bk. 4, sec. 12).

Jerome in the fourth century later wrote:

Asshur [who was the ancestor of the Assyrians] also is joined with the tribes [i.e. the migrating Israelite tribes to their west] invading Western Europe **ALONG THE RHINE** (Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers, ltr. 123, sec. 16).

The names of some of Asshur's descendants give us some clues about who are the modern Assyrians. Some of these include: Khatti; Akkadians; Kassites (or Cossaei); and Almani. We can compare these with some of the names of early German tribes in Europe: Hessians (anciently named Khatti - "Germany," Encyclopedia Britannica); Quadians (Latin for Akkadians); the Chauca (same as the Cossaei); and the Allemanni (Latin for Almani). Even today the French name for Germany is Allemagne.

The descendants of the Assyrians today include the nations of Germany, Austria and the eastern two-thirds of Switzerland that is German-speaking.

God's punishment will first come upon Israel and then on the Gentiles (**Isaiah 10:5-12**). After Christ returns, God will first work with physical Israel and offer them the chance to be spiritual Israelites and then, after they repent, God will open up salvation to the Gentile nations. Israel will become God's model nation and all nations will be blessed because of their example. After Israel fulfills its destiny as God's model nation in the Kingdom of God all nations will likewise repent and become God's chosen peoples (**Revelation 17:14**)!