



TURKEY IN THE EUROPEAN UNION. IS IT SIGNIFICANT?

An Image of human power is being erected before our eyes.

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Hello, again—Paul Billington here with some more Bible, and some more News for you!

Well—as always there is plenty happening out there right now—and a lot of it is relevant to fulfilling Bible prophecy—but one of the really significant items of news, is the agreement of the E.U. to enter into talks with Turkey about that Moslem country joining the European Union—up to now a Christian club. Well—you might think that there is nothing to get too excited about there; but if you **do** think that—just hold on a minute.

Prophetically, there is an important city in Turkey—and that city is **ISTANBUL** on the Bosphorus. It was formerly known by the Name Constantinople, and was in those days Orthodox Christian. You see, it was founded by Constantine the Great who was responsible for turning the pagan Roman Empire into a Christian and Catholic Roman Empire in about 325 AD. He moved the seat of the Roman Empire from Rome to Constantinople—so from then on the Empire had two aspects. Rome in the West, and Constantinople in the East.

Now in looking at Bible Prophecy we see that Daniel chapter 2, the vision of the Great Image, has the Roman Empire represented by two legs. In explaining the vision of the Image, Daniel says in verses 36-40, “This is the dream; and we will tell the interpretation thereof before the king. Thou, O king, art a king of kings: for the God of heaven hath given thee a kingdom, power, and strength, and glory. And wheresoever the children of men dwell, the beasts of the field and the fowls of the heaven hath he given into thine hand, and hath made thee ruler over them all. Thou art this head of gold. And after thee shall arise another kingdom inferior to thee, and another third kingdom of brass, which shall bear rule over all the earth. And the fourth kingdom shall be strong as iron: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise” (Daniel 2:36-40).

So you see that Nebuchadnezzar’s Babylon was the first empire (that’s the head of gold), and it was followed by a second—that’s the Medes and Persians, then a third—and that’s the Greek Empire—and then also a fourth, which has to be the Roman Empire. As many have noticed—there are TWO legs: one representing the Western Roman section and the other the Byzantine or Constantinople part.

There are also feet and toes belonging to each section, so that we see that the situation following the Roman Empire is also represented. Western Europe and Eastern Europe are composed of individual nations answering to “toes.”

Well now—if you wanted to re-build and erect the old Roman power, you would have to bring together BOTH parts: Rome in the West (and its toes), and Constantinople in the East with its tootsies as well. If Turkey is eventually incorporated into the European Union, that move will lay the basis for a new and up-to-date Roman Empire. But more than that:

In Daniel chapter 2:28 it says this: “ But there is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets, and maketh known to the king Nebuchadnezzar what shall be in the latter days. Thy dream, and the visions of thy head upon thy bed, are these.”

“*The Latter Days!*” So this vision, as well as giving us an outline of history, tells us about the situation that will exist *in the latter days*.



And what is that situation?

Just this—that all the parts of the image will exist TOGETHER, as a completed structure. It is to be broken in pieces *together*; says verse 35, and so the parts must be in existence at that time for this to happen.

The STONE POWER that smites the image breaks ALL the metals at the moment of impact. Daniel 2:45 says,

“Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.”

So what we are seeing today, is the parts of this Image-of-Babylon power, being gradually brought together in a UNION.

We have the European Union now comprising 25 countries from West and East Europe. To bring in Turkey, with its Constantinople, would be a very significant move indeed, creating the feet and toes ready for the whole structure to be built. And what a *terrible* system it will be, says Daniel—verse 31.

We believe—on the basis of prophecy (Ezekiel 38 for example) that it will be the mission of Russia to bind the whole alliance together. This is the work of Gog.

In his book, *Elpis Israel*, written over 150 years ago (in 1849), John Thomas gave an outline of the territorial make-up of this developing Image-Empire. He wrote:

Gogue’s will include so much of the territory as to entitle his dominion to be represented by Nebuchadnezzar’s Image. Assyria proper, Persia, Asia Minor, Armenia, and Mesopotamia; Egypt, Italy, Germany, Belgium, France, Spain, Portugal, Sardinia, Naples, Lombardy, Bavaria, Hungary, and Greece—countries all included in the catalogue given by Ezekiel in his prophecy of Gogue—are symbolised by the head, breast, body, thighs, legs, and toes of the Image. These are at the crisis united together in one dominion, which is broken to pieces as the result of the battle of Armageddon.”

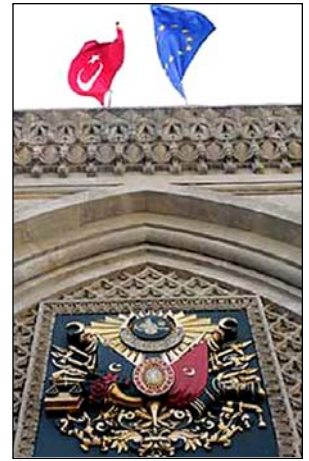
It is while this development is taking place, that Christ will come. Revelation 16:14,15 makes it clear that while the nations are gathering together, Christ will come as a thief.

“Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.”

We have to be ready for this. Not only must we WATCH, but we must also have AND KEEP our garments—our clothing; our covering for sin—that’s what he is telling us.

Are we covered? While there is time we must make sure of this. First by belief of the Truth and baptism. Then by KEEPING covered, by our walk or lifestyle—1 John 1, verse 7 and 9 especially.

Talk to you again next week, God willing.



Turkish & EU flags fly at the entrance to the market in Istanbul