



LEGACY INSTITUTE

P.O. Box 575, Monrovia, California 91016

www.legacyinstitute.org

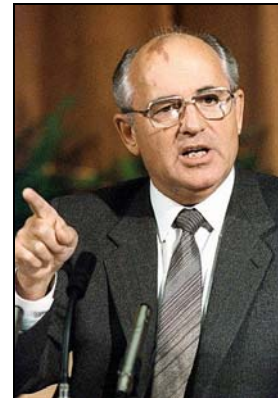
mail@legacyinstitute.org

1 February 2012

IN THIS LETTER:
COMING NEW WORLD ORDER
•
PASSOVER IN BURMA

"The idea of democratizing the entire world order has become a powerful socio-political force. At the same time, the scientific and technological revolution has turned many economic, food, energy, environmental, information and population problems, which only recently we treated as national or regional ones, into global problems."

Quotation from a speech given by Mikhail Gorbachev to the United Nations General Assembly, December 7, 1988.



Mikhail Gorbachev
Wikimedia Commons

Dear Friends and Fellow Laborers,

I am going to talk to you in this letter about a NEW WORLD ORDER. There is a very powerful world movement towards a system of world government that has centralized power, is socialist and humanist in nature, enacts worldwide uniform and universal laws, and will have a new system of world trade with a new world currency. Of course, individual nations will have to give up their sovereignty to this immerging new world order, or they will not be permitted to benefit from its control of world trade. Now before you begin to think I have gone off on a conspiracy theory trail to fanaticism, just let me say that the Bible talks a great deal about this New World Order—and it turns out to be not so “new” after all!

Revelation 13:1

And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the name of blasphemy.

This beast described by John is a visual prophetic description of the system of man's rule on earth that began with Nimrod and the first Babylonian Empire. It is a system that is in rebellion against God's laws and God's lordship. Notice what God told Samuel when Israel asked for a human king.

I Samuel 8:4-8

Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah, And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: now make us a king to judge us like all the nations. But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king

to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the LORD. And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them. According to all the works which they have done since the day that I brought them up out of Egypt even unto this day, wherewith they have forsaken me, and served other gods, so do they also unto thee.

The people of Israel were rejecting God's rule over them. It was not Samuel that they were rejecting. Notice also that they wanted a human ruler like all the other nations. This is revealing.

They did not want to be under the rule of the Most High God, who was their king because of the covenant at Sinai. This is exactly the same attitude Lucifer had when he rebelled against God:

Isaiah 14:12-14

How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.

He not only wanted to get out from under the Almighty's authority, he wanted to replace God as ruler of the universe. His rebellion led to his being banished from Heaven and his fall to Earth.

Luke 10:18

And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.

Satan's attitude is the same as displayed by Adam and Eve, who rejected God's authority over their lives—and it is the same attitude humanity has had ever since. God's rule leads to eternal life; but the forbidden fruit of self-determination and human reasoning leads to eternal death.

The great beasts we see in Daniel's prophecy are nothing less than the continuation of Nimrod's style of rule that founded Babylon.

Genesis 10:8-10

*And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth. He was a mighty hunter before the LORD: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD. And the beginning of his kingdom was **Babel**, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar.*

What was the rule of Nimrod like? The Bible gives us few clues other than the phrase, “wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD.” This is clearly a phrase or proverbial title that described the mighty founder and first king of Babylon. We need to look at the Hebrew to discover its full meaning.



Marduk, the god of **Babylon** is accompanied by a dragon.
Picture: Wikimedia Commons.

The name Nimrod probably has to do with נִרְדַּד (marad) meaning be rebellious, rebel, revolt.¹

The *Jewish Encyclopedia* says this:

Nimrod is the prototype of a rebellious people, his name being interpreted as "he who made all the people rebellious against God" (Pes. 94b; comp. Targ. of pseudo-Jonathan and Targ. Yer. to Gen. x. 9).

This man Nimrod led a rebellion against Yahweh, who was Noah's God and who later became the Covenant God of Abraham. He founded the first post-flood kingdom in the area of Babylon and Assyria which became known as the *Land of Nimrod*². He is also credited with the building of the Tower of Babel, which was not a tower at all, but rather, a ziggurat or step pyramid. The top of each Babylonian ziggurat temple was supposed to be a portal to heaven³.

Nimrod is identified as the Babylonian god *Marduk* (Hebrew *Merodach*), the patron and chief god of Babylon⁴, who is usually depicted as a hunter. It is interesting that Marduk is generally shown accompanied by a dragon.

This Striding Snake Dragon of Marduk at one time decorated the Ishtar Gate which began the procession to the great temple of Marduk for about half a mile. The dragon is decorated in molded glazed bricks, with its scaly body of a dragon, head of a snake, hind feet claws of a large bird of prey, front paws of a lion and the tail of a deadly scorpion. It is interesting that the serpent in the Garden of Eden was apparently standing upright before it became cursed in the fall. The Hebrew word for serpent is "nachash" and in Isaiah 27:1 the dragon is also referred to as the "nachash"⁵

¹ <http://www.abarim-publications.com/Meaning/Nimrod.html>

² Micah 5:6

³ Gen 11:4

⁴ <http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com/articles/11548-nimrod>

⁵ <http://www.bible-history.com/archaeology/babylon/dragon-marduk.html>

The Ishtar Gate was the gateway to the Temple of Marduk. The processional gateway was lined with glazed tile pictures of the striding dragon of Marduk. The entire Ishtar Gate was disassembled and transported to Berlin and reassembled. It now stands in the Pergamon Museum.

Revelation 13:2

And the beast which I saw was like unto a leopard, and his feet were as the feet of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion: and the dragon gave him his power, and his seat, and great authority.



Striding dragon of the Ishtar Gate, now in the Pergamon Museum, Berlin. Photo: Wikimedia Commons.

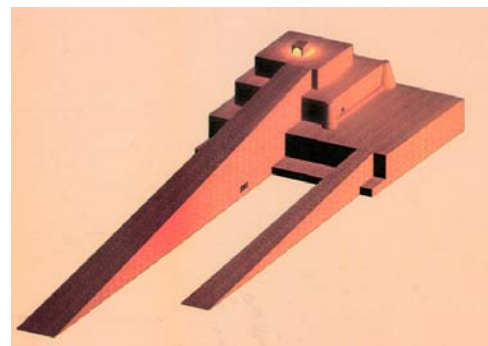
The dragon of Marduk represents the presence of Satan the Great Dragon. Since Nimrod's system of government has been passed down through the centuries in successive empires, so has the control and influence of Satan over what the leaders of this governing system do.

NIMROD BUILT THE TOWER OF BABEL

Genesis 11:3-4

And they said one to another, Go to, let us make brick, and burn them throughly. And they had brick for stone, and slime had they for mortar. And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may reach unto heaven; and let us make us a name, lest we be scattered abroad upon the face of the whole earth.

The city they built was called Babylon, which means the Gate of God. The Tower they built was supposed to allow them to reach heaven. They also wanted to develop a great human kingdom to unite the people under one government – “lest we be scattered all over the face of the earth.”



Above is a CAD reconstruction of the Great Ziggurat of Ur. The tower of Babel was like this with the house for the god at the top. Picture: Wikimedia Commons.

The real Tower of Babel was a ziggurat, not a straight tower like we think. It portrayed a stairway to heaven.

Nimrod was the first empire builder. He rejected the rule of the God of Heaven. He wanted to rule all people everywhere. Eventually, he began to be worshipped as a god. He replaced worship of the true God with worship of himself as the god (the one later called Marduk).

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."

The false or counterfeit system of government tries to replace Jesus with a human ruler who then acts as intercessor between God and man. Nimrod wanted to replace the one who became the human Jesus, the High Priest and Intercessor between God and man. Yet Jesus is the only one to whom those titles belong.

I Timothy 2:5

For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;

The human ruler of the on-going counterfeit kingdom wants to be worshipped as a god, as did the rulers of Babylon, Persia, Greece, and Rome. The final Beast ruler talked about in the Bible will want to be worshipped also as a god.

Revelation 13:15

And he had power to give life unto the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak, and cause that as many as would not worship the image of the beast should be killed.

This should come as no surprise to anyone. This idea of human rule in rebellion against the God of Heaven began with Nimrod, has lasted through the ages, and remains on the earth today. This evil system will come into full force again just before the return of Jesus the Christ when He will destroy it entirely once and for all. Jesus, our Lord and King of Kings, will come back to set up the REAL Kingdom of God and rule the world from Jerusalem.

We understand from history, as well as the vision given to king Nebuchadnezzar in Daniel 2 and the vision given to Daniel himself in chapter 7, that the four successive empires were Babylon, Media-Persia, Greece, and finally, Rome. Each conquered and absorbed the previous empire's lands, peoples, and religion. That is why the beast that emerges from the sea in Revelation 13 has the combined characteristics of all four.

Daniel 2:33-35

His legs of iron, his feet part of iron and part of clay. Thou sawest till that a stone was cut out without hands, which smote the image upon his feet that were of iron and clay, and brake them to pieces. Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.

That means that the system of government started by Nimrod has continued on throughout history. Daniel 2 shows the head of gold; next is the chest of silver; then is the belly and thighs of brass; the legs of iron; and finally the feet of iron mixed with clay.

In the final days just before Jesus returns, the iron of Rome will mix with potter's clay to form the final resurrection of Nimrod's system of rule.

There are scriptures in the Bible that suggest that the potter's clay of the feet could possibly be some modern day nations of the descendants of Jacob. Speaking of Israel, Isaiah says:

Isaiah 64:8

But now, O LORD, thou art our father; we are the clay, and thou our potter; and we all are the work of thy hand.

The prophet Jeremiah also records God's words:

Jeremiah 18:5-6

Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying, O house of Israel, cannot I do with you as this potter? saith the LORD. Behold, as the clay is in the potter's hand, so are ye in mine hand, O house of Israel.

This mixture of clay and iron already exists in the union of the military forces of Europe, Britain, and the U.S. in the form of NATO. The configuration of this partnership could change before the end time. The British people have already shown resistance to more supranational control by the EU central governing body over the sovereign financial affairs of England. However, Scotland is planning a plebiscite to decide whether or not to succeed from the British Union. If Scotland becomes independent, they might choose to seek membership in the EU. Israel has always

prostituted herself to the Gentile countries around her. ⁶We do not as yet understand how all of this will eventually coalesce, but the Bible clearly shows that Israel and Judah both turned their backs on God. As a result, they were made slaves of the Gentile nations and became joined politically and economically to them.

MARDUK RISING

Marduk, the chief god of the Babylonians, was called Osiris the sun god by the Egyptians. Marduk became Mithra of the Persians. Mithra morphed into Zeus to the Greeks and Jupiter to the Romans. While the name changed, the station and authority of the chief god stayed the same. Marduk-Osiris-Mithra-Zeus-Jupiter was the king of the gods and became the patron of the ruling houses. This “king of the gods” is nothing less than a counterfeit of the TRUE ruler of heaven.

It was a statue of Jupiter Olympus, the king of the gods that Antiochus Epiphanes set up in the holy precinct of the Temple in Jerusalem. (Antiochus claimed to be Jupiter in human form.) This act of desecration in the Temple was the first fulfillment of the Abomination of Desolation spoken of by Daniel in Daniel 8.

Jesus said in Matthew 24 that this will happen again.

The Bible clearly shows us what is coming by the visions written down in the books of Daniel and Revelation. Jesus points backward to Daniel to show us what is coming in the future at the end of the age. Read your Bible and you will see what is coming. May God continue to open our eyes.

PASSOVER IN BURMA

Gloria and I have decided to go to Burma (Myanmar), as God wills, to keep the Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread this year with our COG brethren. Traveling in Burma is never easy, but my health is pretty good and we have not been there for the holy days in four years. The Church of God is growing and there are still no pastors trained to feed the new flocks. This means that their Sabbath services consist of hymns, prayer and some Bible readings. When they gather for the Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread, and have someone to teach them, they receive an outpouring of scriptural truth and encouragement. If the people in Burma truly need one thing it is encouragement. This visit will also give me the opportunity to counsel with any seeking baptism.

⁶ Hosea 5:3

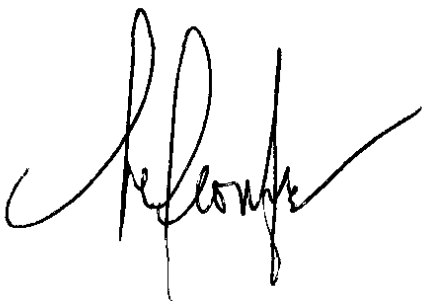
Please pray for all of us and pray that God will provide the funds for this very important COG visit. Not only do we have to take care of our own travel expenses, but Legacy will have to take care of all of the travel, housing, and food expenses for all the Myanmar brethren (about 60 persons). Few brethren have paying jobs and most are subsistence farmers. Myanmar is an economic backwater with almost no opportunity for education or obtaining paying work. It is a struggle for them just to feed their families. We all need to pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ so that God will bring them all safely from the distant areas to gather together in Taungoo, Myanmar.

We are very grateful to Brian Drawbaugh (a COG elder who has taught Bible in Thailand before) because he has agreed to come over and lead the Passover and Days of Unleavened Bread here in Chiang Mai while we are away. Attending will be the local COG brethren (which will also include our refugee brethren from the border camps) as well as any Legacy students that did not go home for their semester break.

Keep praying for us and for God's growing work in this part of the world. What we need more than anything else is to petition our Lord Jesus to call some young men and women to His service. We need pastoral teams, young, and faithful church leaders to serve in Myanmar, and the border regions of Thailand. So far, we have had a number who we thought would be chosen but things just have not worked out. It reminds me of the scripture, "Many are called, but few are chosen."⁷ I can teach, I can hope, and pray; but only the Great and Sovereign Lord Jesus can do the choosing when it comes to His personal servants. We need more workers in the harvest fields.

Presently the fighting in northern Burma continues and thousands of civilians are fleeing their homes or are preparing to flee as the fighting nears their villages. So far, we have received no news about the fighting affecting any of our COG brethren. However, communications have been difficult. We are praying that the fighting does not affect our travel for Passover and the spring holy days.

A servant of The Lord Jesus,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Leon Sexton', with a stylized, flowing script.

T. Leon Sexton

© Legacy Institute 2012

⁷ Matt 20:16