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Russia in the Light of Prophecy

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RUSSIA IN THE LIGHT OF PROPHECY

The three greatest tragedies that have taken place in the United States during the 20th century are: (1) Our entrance into the World War, (2) Our repudiation of the 18th Amendment, (3) Our recognition of Russia. The most serious of these tragedies was the recognition of Russia. We have revealed an internal condition in our country through this recognition. We have added to the international prestige of Russia, and have strengthened its subversive activities in bringing on a world revolution. Our country has sent Mr. Bullitt as our ambassador to Russia. He is an enthusiast for the Russian experiment. Russia has not sent an enthusiast for American institutions as its representative to our country! There is no question but what the agitation for Communism will continue in this beloved nation of ours and the objective is to destroy our religion and what little remains of our democracy.

It would probably be in order for me to give my personal background. When I was a lad of 14, I was working in a factory in Portland, Ore. I started to work at 7:00 in the morning and quit at 6:00 at night, and did a man's work. I was so tired that I retired at times without eating supper. During this period I was fertile soil for the seed of Socialism. There was a Socialist working in the factory who was always propagating his socialistic theories and spreading socialistic literature. After reading the periodicals that this agitator placed at my disposal, I became a Socialist, and was very active in the propagation of these theories. I was cured of Socialism when I discovered that many of the adherents of this philosophy were atheists. However, it was the study of prophecy that made it clear to me that the hope of world was not in Socialism or in the philosophies of men, but in the per-
sonal return of our Lord to set up His Kingdom in this world, when the social, political, national and international problems would be solved by our Lord Himself.

Every patriotic city in the United States should be interested in the question that is under discussion. Certainly every student of prophecy has reason to be vitally interested in Russia. This country covers one-sixth of the area of the globe. It has a population of 146,300,000 people, of whom 6,000,000 are Jews. There are 15,000,000 Russians in this country.

Bolshevism was organized in England in 1903. The word “Bolshevik” means “more”. The two outstanding leaders in the early stages of Bolshevism were Trotsky and Lenin. Trotsky’s real name was Braunstein. He was a gifted disciple of Karl Marx. Braunstein was sent to Siberia and his warden happened to be a Russian Jew who looked like Braunstein. Braunstein killed the warden, took his picture and name and escaped to America. During this time the leaven of anarchy was working in Russia and eventually the czar abdicated. The first Russian revolution was democratic and Kerensky became its leader and representative.

Lenin’s real name was Vladimir Vilianoff. He became the leader of the Bolshevik revolution that overthrew Kerensky and his government. Lenin sent to America for Trotsky, who was living on the East Side in New York. Trotsky was poor when he left America. When he reached Russia he had 50 million rubles. He came through Germany on his way to Russia, and the explanation of his financial status upon arriving in Russia is, that Germany, in the hopes of undermining the morale of the Russian army, had placed this money at his disposal.

Russia is a not a democracy: it is an autocracy; 85½ per cent of the population of Russia are farmers and are not represented in the present government; 8 per cent of the population are capitalists and 5½ per cent industrial workers. The Russian government at present is an industrial autocracy.

The United States is in the grip of a strong delusion regarding the actual situation in Russia. Pro-communist writers and lecturers have inundated this nation with communist propaganda. These professors and writers have been on hermetically sealed tours conducted by soviet guides who have brought them to the show places in Russia. Their ignorance of the language and their inability to get entree into all parts of the country has made it easy for them to be deceived. The only other explanation of the pro-communist educational leaders in this country is, that they are the paid agents of the Communists.

Russia is bleeding from many wounds. “The Worker’s Paradise” is one of the expressions used in describing Russia. As a matter of fact, most of the people are having a miserable existence. Tens of thousands of boys and girls are wandering around the country in herds and are living on the carcasses of dead animals. I hold no brief for the government of czars. God knows the conditions in those days were bad enough, but the hardships endured by the Russian people today were never experienced under the old system. The persecution of Bolsheviks had caused the death of 1,766,177 individuals between November 1917 and February 1922.

The All Union Society of Militant Atheists has 50 million members, with representatives from practically all the nations of the world. This organization had its genesis in Russia. The churches and Sunday-schools of Russia have been closed. It is the purpose of the Bolsheviks to wipe out the concept of God through anti-God seminaries. In anti-God seminaries leaders are being trained to carry on this propaganda. Atheistic films are also doing their deadly work along these lines. It is the purpose of Russian leaders to drive God out of Russia, and He has been ordered to move out with boots and baggage by May 1, 1937.
A world revolution is the ultimate objective of the Bolshevik leaders. This world plot to overthrow all existing governments and to wipe out civilization is to be brought about by means of agitation and violence. These world plotters are seeking to destroy confidence in existing governments and institutions.

Bishop Manning made this statement some time ago: "I believe we are facing today one of the greatest crises in Christian history. The Russian warfare against God is not confined to that movement; its influence is being felt throughout the world."

Successful revolutionary propaganda is now being carried on in fifty countries. Honorable Hamilton Fish, Jr., of New York, has, through his report, revealed that in this country we have a nationwide propaganda against constitutional government. Communists are boring from within and seeking to foment discontent in every part of the nation.

Recently a professor in one of the higher institutions of learning in this country made this statement: "Communism is the great secular religion, with Marx in the place of Jehovah, Lenin in the place of Jesus, Trotsky in the place of Paul, and Stalin in the place of Peter." Lenin says: "Youth is our best experiment. Hatred is a basis of Communism; therefore we must teach children to hate their parents; we must encourage young people to rebel against all authority."

A Boston school-teacher has made this statement: "Give us one generation of children to train to manhood and womanhood, and we will set up the Communitistic form of government."

As students of prophecy, we are interested in the teaching of the Word of God regarding the future of Russia. In the gospel according to Luke, in the 21st chapter and the 24th verse, we read these words: "Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the gentiles until the times of the gentiles be fulfilled." We are living in the times of the gentiles. This period began with Nebuchadnezzar and will continue until the return of Christ in glory. "The times of the gentiles" is that period of world history when the Jews are out of harmony with the divine purpose. Because of the failure of Israel in fulfilling the purpose of God in the world, Babylon became the great world empire, and ever since, world rule has been in the hands of the gentiles.

In Luke 21:29 we read this statement that fell from the lips of our Lord: "Behold the fig tree, and all the trees." Every student of prophecy knows that whenever the fig tree is referred to in the Bible figuratively, it always means the Jews. Christ is saying, Behold the Jews: watch developments among God's ancient people. It is our bounden duty to obey this injunction of Christ. Our Lord also said, "Behold all the trees." That is, watch developments among the gentile nations of the world. When we are studying contemporary history in the light of prophecy we are obeying the Lord.

In the book of Ezekiel we find some very clear and important teaching regarding the future of Israel and the future of Russia. In the 36th chapter of Ezekiel and in the 19th verse we discover the reason why the Children of Israel have been scattered throughout the nations of the world. Listen! "And I scattered them among the heathen, and they were dispersed throughout the countries according to their way, and according to their doings I judge them." The dispersion of Israel is a judgment from God because of the disobedience of this ancient people of God. It is a most remarkable fact that in spite of the Jews being scattered throughout the world among practically all the nations, they have yet maintained their identity. Throughout the centuries they have been without a land, without a king, without a flag, and yet a Jew is a Jew wherever you find him, and maintains the characteristics of his race.
When we go further down into this chapter and come to the 24th verse, we discover that it is the purpose of God to regather Israel and bring her back into the promised land. Listen! “For I will take you from among the heathen and gather you out of all countries, and will bring you into your own land.” In the 37th chapter we learn the method of this restoration. We see in this chapter a vision of a valley full of bones. This is a vision of the restoration of Israel to her land. In the 11th verse we read: “These bones are the whole house of Israel.” It is not a spiritual movement that brings Israel back to Palestine; it is a political movement; but after Israel has returned to Palestine, and when the Lord comes, a spiritual revival will take place among this people, as we find in Ezekiel 37:14.

Recently some very interesting and significant events have been taking place in Palestine. Dr. Chaim Weizman, who for many years was the leader of the Zionistic movement, was a professor in one of the English universities. During the world war he made a discovery of a certain chemical that was needed in the manufacture of munitions. Great Britain was very anxious to secure and make use of this invention. Dr. Weizman was asked to state the price for the discovery. His answer was, “Palestine restored to the Jews.” As a result, we have the Balfour declaration: “His Majesty’s government views with favor the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people.” The promise was made that if the Allies won the war, the promised land would be open to the Jews, and we know the results. Marvelous developments have taken place within Palestine during recent years. A Hebrew university has been established on Mount Scopus. Tel Aviv, the Los Angeles of the East, has come into existence. Great agricultural projects have been developed. More recently, chemical wealth that is so great that it baffles human imagination has been discovered in the Dead Sea. Jews have been returning to Palestine by the thousands. Certainly we have reason today as never before to obey the injunction of our Lord, “Behold the fig tree,” and to marvel at the fulfillment of prophecy that is taking place before our very eyes.

Russia is brought before us in the 38th chapter. We read about the land of Magog, which is of course Russia, and about Gog, who is the ruler of Russia. We read of Meshach and Tubal, which are references to Moscow and Tobolsk. We also read about Persia, Ethiopia, Libya, Togarmah, which is a reference to Turkey, and many people, which may have reference to China; and Gomer, which of course refers to Germany.

The clear teaching of the 38th and 39th chapters of Ezekiel is, that in the end of the time of the Gentiles there is going to be a great military alliance under the leadership of Russia, that may be called the northern confederacy. A careful study of these two chapters will reveal that the Jews are then dwelling in Palestine, and they have brought with them silver and gold from the various countries from which they hail. The northern confederacy under the leadership of Russia comes into Palestine to “take the spoil”. In the 16th verse we discover that it is in the latter days, and in the 15th verse we discover that this army shall come out of the north parts. We also learn from Ezekiel 38:13 that Great Britain and her possessions shall come to the defense of the Jews. Such an awful warfare will rage that five-sixths of the armies will be slain, and it will take seven months to bury the dead, according to Ezek. 39:2 and 39:12.

Russia is prepared for war. As a matter of fact, she ranks first among all the nations of the world as far as such preparation is concerned. France is second on the list, and the United States of America ranks fifteenth as far as war preparation is concerned. Every officer...
and every enlisted man in the army of the United States could be seated in the Chicago stadium in Grant Park at the same time.

Why don't the pacifists in this country, who are constantly agitating for disarmament, agitate for disarmament in Russia, the greatest military menace of the world? Russia had last year three million men under arms, and 5½ million belonging to the reserves, and several million women receiving systematic military instruction. It is the ambition of Russia to have an army of 17 million at the end of this year.

In Ezekiel 38:10 we discover that Satan is back of this northern confederacy. We read as follows: "Thus saith the Lord God, it shall also come to pass that at the same time shall things come into thy mind, and thou shalt think an evil thought." Who causes Russia to have the evil thought of Communism? The answer is self-evident. There is an unseen realm that is closer to us than we realize. Demons inhabit the atmospheric heavens that surround the earth, and are exercising a tremendous influence upon the affairs of this earth. Satan is the god of this age. Through his host of demons he is practically ubiquitous. Communism is the devil's great attempt to overthrow existing governments and bring on the personal anti-Christ, who is going to reign here in this world for a period of seven years during the time of tribulation.

Some one may wonder how there can be a union of Russia and Germany in the light of the fact that Germany at present is controlled by fascism and Russia by communism. It is a well known fact that there is a secret Russia-German pact, called the Russo-German treaty, which was established at Rapallo on April 16, 1922. These two countries are pledged to come to the assistance of each other. Furthermore, fascism in Germany may pass out over night, and as there are 16,000,000 communists in that land, the reaction will bring on communism.

Let us now turn to the 16th chapter of Revelation and read verses 12 to 16: "And the sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the East might be prepared."

It is a principle in Bible interpretation that everything in the Word of God shall be taken literally unless the context clearly reveals that the language is figurative. We have reason to believe that the river Euphrates shall be literally dried up, and according to this verse the reason for the drying up of the Euphrates is, that a way may be prepared for the kings of the sunrising—which of course refers, first of all, to Japan, and then to her allies. The Asiatic countries will be in the northern confederacy.

But let us continue: "And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet. For they are the spirits of devils working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty." In the 16th verse we discover that this is a reference to the battle of Armageddon.

Demons under the control of Satan and the anti-Christ and the false prophet work miracles and influence the leaders of the nations that have been mentioned in this exposition to gather their forces in Palestine. Is there anything going on at the present time preparing for such an eventuality? We know there is a rising tide of color. The spirit of revolt is abroad; and the slogan today is "Asia for Asiatics." It is not to be wondered at. The white man rules North America, South America, Europe, Africa, all of Asia except China, Japan, Siam and Arabia. There is a spirit of revolt in China and in India, and back of this revolt is Satan. Eventually the Asiatic countries will co-operate with Russia in going down into Palestine to secure the wealth of the Jews and to attempt to wipe
out God’s ancient people, and the battle of Armageddon will be fought.

Some months ago the United States of America recognized Russia. Uncle Sam placed his hand in the bloody hand of the Russian bear and marched down the avenue of nations, and the greatest tragedy of the 20th century, as far as the United States is concerned, took place. Russia hates God and His Christ, and spurns the Bible, and would, if her purposes could be realized, wipe out all religion. Why did the United States recognize Russia? During my recent visit to Washington, D.C., in a conference with Honorable Hamilton Fish, Jr., I asked this question. His answer was, “It was the greatest hoax ever pulled off in the history of our country. Southern senators were told that Russia would provide a market for cotton, and Southern senators were changed over night.”

Immediately after the recognition of Russia, I attended a Communist celebration in the Coliseum in Chicago. Another gentleman and I came to the meeting early. A lady of culture and refinement was selling literature, and came up to us and tried to convert us to Communism. Her frankness was quite surprising. I asked her what was going to happen in this country. Her answer was that the NRA was a failure; Fascism will be the next development, and in 1936 Communism would prevail in the United States. How are you going to do it? was my question. “We are going to unite the Jews, the farmers, and the colored people.” “Look around here,” was her answer; “look around at this audience, and you will discover that half of the people here are Jews. We are organized throughout fifty nations, and we are ready to take over the governments of the world. Some of us are not Communists; we are friends of the Soviet Union; we can do more good on the outside, but when the world revolution comes, we will be ready.”

The sum and substance of what was said by the various speakers of the evening was revealed in this statement: “Poor, proud, capitalistic United States has come to Bolshevik Russia begging for the privilege of recognizing Russia that they might provide for us a market.” The speakers revealed that the recognition of Russia was a great victory for Communism.

Dr. Patmont, who speaks the Russian language and has been in Russia, has written a book entitled “The Mystery of Iniquity,” that describes the appalling conditions that prevail in that country. When Dr. Patmont came back from Washington after Russia had been recognized, I had an interview with him. Dr. Patmont told me of his visit with the President, and about the sinister influences that surround our President at the present time. Peter Deyneca, a native Russian, a personal friend of mine, who is the general director of the Russian Evangelistic Association, has recently returned from the Russian border. He has several relatives who have starved to death under Bolshevism. It is about time the truth is told concerning Russia, and that the American people are informed about actual conditions that prevail in this land ruled by Bolsheviks.

What are the practical lessons that come to us as a result of this exposition? First of all, it is clear that the Bible is God’s infallible revelation. God forewarned and forst the things that are taking place in the world at the present time, and the infallibility of Scripture is proven by the fulfillment of prophecy.

The second great lesson that we learn as we meditate upon these world conditions in the light of prophecy is, that the time for evangelism is short. The time of the white man in the far East is very brief, and therefore such workers should be giving themselves to the task of training native workers, that the work of evangelization may go on after the white man has been put out.
In the third place, a study of the situation reveals the necessity for a spiritual awakening in our own beloved country. Our morale must be very low, and our spiritual condition most appalling, when the greatest piece of moral legislation ever adopted by a modern nation can be wiped out almost over night, as the 18th amendment of our Constitution has been repudiated, and when a God-hating, Christ-rejecting and Bible-spurning country like Russia can be recognized by our government. America, wake up!

Dr. Francis L. Patton, the President of Princeton university in days gone by, an evangelical who rendered allegiance to the verities of our holy faith, made this significant statement: "The only hope of Christianity is the rehabilitating of the Pauline theology. It is back, back to the Incarnate Christ and the Atoning Blood, or it is on, on, on to atheism and despair." And he might have added, or it is on, on, on to Communism! The only hope of America, apart from the Second Coming of Christ, is nation-wide repentance and confession of sin and a return to God. Uncle Sam needs to go to the mourner's bench—which is only another way of saying that our whole nation must repent. If this does not take place, the United States is doomed.

Once there existed great churches in northern Egypt and northern Africa, in Asia Minor and Eastern Europe. Apostasy got the upper hand and the churches were weakened. Mohammedanism conquered over this area; the hordes of Arabia wiped out the apostate Christian civilization. A careful analysis of the situation will reveal that this depression and the appalling conditions that prevail in the United States of America at the present time are caused by the rejection of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and the infallible revelation of God by the professing church. The church has lost her message and her power, and consequently the judgments of God are in the earth.

And the tragedy is, that the United States is blindly rushing to its doom; and the recognition of Russia is to the student of prophecy a revelation of what is impending for our beloved country.

Let me close with these words: if history teaches anything, it teaches that a nation that forgets God is doomed. What is true of a nation is true of the individual. The essence of sin is lawlessness. The man who rejects Christ, refuses His offer of mercy, and who goes on in his sin, is shaking his fist at God and is stoning Christ, and is headed for inevitable judgment. Therefore, my final plea would be, to the individual that reads this message, Be ye reconciled to God by accepting Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour. The time is short. Christ is coming soon. The season of grace will soon be over. Now is the accepted time. Today is the day of salvation. Come to Christ, come as you are, and come now, while the door of mercy is still open.