Chapter 1.
Looking For Clues In All The Wrong Places

There was no corner of the world where some interest was not alleged to be in danger or under actual attack. If the interests were not Roman, they were of Rome’s allies; and if Rome had no allies, then allies would be invented. When it was utterly impossible to contrive such an interest—then it was the national honor that had been insulted. The fight was always invested with an aura of legality. Rome was always being attacked by evil-minded neighbors, always fighting for a breathing space. The whole world was pervaded by a host of enemies, and it was manifestly Rome’s duty to guard against their indubitably aggressive designs.  
- The Sociology of Imperialisms, by Joseph Schumpeter, 1951.¹

Once upon a time, you could trace the spread of imperialism by counting up colonies. America's version of the colony is the military base...

The total of America's military bases in other people's countries in 2005, according to official [Pentagon] sources, was 737. Reflecting massive deployments to Iraq and the pursuit of President Bush's strategy of preemptive war, the trend line for numbers of overseas bases continues to go up.  

Interestingly enough, the thirty-eight large and medium-sized American facilities spread around the globe in 2005—mostly air and naval bases for our bombers and fleets—almost exactly equals Britain's thirty-six naval bases and army garrisons at its imperial zenith in 1898. The Roman Empire at its height in 117 AD required thirty-seven major bases to police its realm from Britannia to Egypt, from Hispania to Armenia...  

These numbers, although staggeringly big, do not begin to cover all the actual bases we occupy globally...

-Nemesis: The Last Days of the American Republic, by Chalmers Johnson²

The time has come for Bible prophecy students to do some serious re-thinking of the conventional wisdom regarding the events and players surrounding the Second Coming of Jesus Christ. It is the opinion of this author and the thrust of this book, that typical end times “apocalyptic” Bible prophecy teachings have wrongly focused on the European Union or United Nations as the fount of all evil in the Last Days, and the political milieu out of which an Antichrist dictator must emerge. Concurrently any mention of the United States in the prophecies has been denied or downplayed in spite of her present place of indisputable dominance on the world scene. Yet it is this author’s contention that not only is the US not missing from the end times drama but is actually the most central player in it. Moreover, identifying her as the great last days empire of Daniel 7 and the Great Babylon of Revelation 16-18 is the master key to unlocking all the other “mysteries” about the last days.

To grasp this truth renders irrelevant a number of other assumptions routinely made in times past, particularly a prophecy in Daniel 2:42 about a last days empire made of
“iron and clay.” Since the ancient Roman Empire is mentioned before this and is symbolized by iron, the interpretation is that at the end of the age, there will arise a “revived” Roman Empire" (modern day Europe with its European Union), since the EU and ancient Rome somewhat overlap geographically. Thus Europe would become the base or "seat" of the Antichrist, and serve in general as the preeminent region in a UN-based one world government, oppressing, transforming, and ultimately destroying most of the planet.

The fact that European elites would dearly love to run the world bolsters this illusion, since it was out of their circles that a “world government” scheme found its genesis in elite secret societies. But the “playing out” is proving to be something nearly impossible. For sixty-five years now, the United States has been the dominant nation in the world. Her emergence from World War II having suffered only 416,000 casualties and never been invaded, left her the world’s undisputed super power. Russia in contrast suffered a devastating invasion and lost an estimated 20 million or more soldiers and civilians, and that after years of losing millions more to the sadistic hand of Stalin. At the end of that war, one million western Russians were living in literal holes in the ground! Even during the Cold War era when leftist Communism was a great threat to the Christian West, the Soviet Union’s power (except in nuclear weapons) was deliberately exaggerated by the CIA. Today the threat to democracy comes from the extreme right, from unfettered capitalism and the financialization of all things.3

Since the end of the Cold War, the U.S. is now not only the greatest super power but the world's lone super power as well. That so many Americans believe their elites have been willingly subservient to the United Nations’ agenda and the European elites’ claim to occultic, bloodline supremacy is yet another illusion that is more fantasy than fact. The truth is America has acted more like a lone wolf at the UN and that from its beginning, often voting against the entire body or with but one or two other nations siding with her (often on behalf of Israel). With her veto vote in the Security Council, time and again she has thwarted the wishes of the entire earth and international law.

Indeed ever since the end of World War II, America’s ruling class has pursued a much more independent course than the average political conservative or Evangelical is aware of. If anything they have created a global empire, a world trading order wherein American influence dominates in every nook and cranny of the earth:

Declassified documents (released in 2001) showed that “the US intelligence community ran a campaign in the Fifties and Sixties to build momentum for a united Europe. It funded and directed the European federalist movement.”[22] The documents revealed that, “America was working aggressively behind the scenes to push Britain into a European state. One memorandum, dated July 26, 1950, gives instructions for a campaign to promote a fully-fledged European parliament. It is signed by Gen William J Donovan, head of the American wartime Office of Strategic Services, precursor of the CIA.4

Apparently even the European Union was largely a creature of American strategic thinking. The myth that American officials have been slavishly subservient to UN mandates from its beginning has been a gross distortion at best, and has reinforced the
conventional wisdom that a UN “world government” led by a European Antichrist was the enemy to look out for.

The blatant nose-thumbing toward the world by the Bush-Cheney regime should have dispelled this myth once and for all. For sixty years now American elites have been busy building their own global empire, largely through their "National Security State" paradigm and that "covertly" of course, hidden from the American public’s view. It was an effort that solidified a long-standing trend towards maneuvering America into becoming essentially a de facto replacement of the old British Empire. The ascendancy of the radical “neo-conservatives” in the Bush-Cheney years brought this imperial attitude out into the open and giving a glimpse into Israel’s growing role in controlling American foreign policy. The fullness of this trend will probably culminate in either the coming of an American right-wing (possibly military) dictator or an Israeli who serves as the effective leader of both countries.

Thus the fact that American and European elites may want to build a world government does not mean they are or ever will manage to do so. Why? The Bible paints a scenario of the Last Days as being something of a grand train wreck involving many nations and institutions. The chaos initiated by wars at the beginning and end of the Great Tribulation period, its short duration (3 ½ years not 7 years), and a West divided from the East at the Battle of Armageddon (Rev 16:12) suggest that a functioning world government never gets going. This is the meaning of the paradox about this Last Days empire being “partly strong” [a network of many vassal states] and “partly broken” [internal divisions and a resistant enemy from the East] (Dan 2:42).

**Europe's Collision With America**

The New World Order / One-World Government scheme was originally the brainchild of three mostly European-based forces with roots going back several centuries. They include (1) occultic secret societies now led by the Illuminati; (2) the royal bloodline families of Europe; and (3) the financial and economic elites who made their fortunes through them, led by the Rothschild banking cabal / network.

Such European elite circles still long to bring this misguided plan of theirs to fruition, but as was said they seem to have lost control of the agenda. As Steve Shearer of Antipas Ministries has so aptly put it, the American elites have "effectively relegated Europe to the position Greece once held within the old Roman Empire….something of an ally, but certainly an inferior (and complaining) one.”6 The Rothschild City of London may control the monetary systems but it’s the American economy where the real wealth is generated, where political power is located, and where real military force lies. The only thing that can change this is if little Israel, the cat’s paw for the Rothschilds, can manage to take over the United States outright and use her for her own eschatological ambitions.

While many were expecting a “peace dividend” with the end of the Cold War, the Pentagon and their beneficiaries on Wall Street did the exact opposite, surging forward with evermore expensive and elaborate equipment and weapon systems. Even with the
recent shift away from Cold War weapon strategies to a more counter insurgency doctrine, there seems to be no bottom to the Pentagon’s budget, its lust for “Total Spectrum Dominance,” and defense contractors pushing for the most expensive dream projects they can come up with.

The result has been an American military so massive as to almost beggar description. In later chapters I will attempt to explain to you just how ridiculous and expensive that machine has become. Suffice it for now to point out that you will never, ever hear any of it detailed on the evening news by media that are themselves owned by defense contractor conglomerates.

**Re-Thinking Our Assumptions**

What Christianity in general is suffering from in its approach to Bible prophecy (when it isn’t just ignoring the subject altogether), is that its thinking is in accord with definitions, scenarios and premises that are simply too outdated or ignorant of new, emergent developments in our world. Thus I think it can be safely said that certain long-standing assumptions within prophecy circles that were once more or less universally-held, simply no longer make any sense. They include:

1. The assumption that the United States must “decline in influence” and “bow off the world stage” before the Tribulation period can be set up.

As was introduced above, this is based upon another set-in-stone assumption, that it's Europe that is destined to rise and become the heart of the Antichrist system and the so-called "seat" or home base of the Antichrist himself. This is derived from a certain interpretation of a prophecy in Daniel chapter 2 about "feet and toes of iron and clay" which is interpreted to mean a "Revived Roman Empire" or Europe. This symbol, it seems to me, is foundational from their point of view in unlocking the meaning of everything else. Yet if this is true, then the U.S., despite its conspicuous prominence at this moment as the world's "lone super power," must somehow of necessity fade away and lose its dominant place in order for this new reality to come to fruition.

For some this implies a long, slow economic decline occasioned by America’s national debt. For others, this “fading away” means the United States will be attacked and invaded by a number of nations, probably led by Russia, China and Latin America during the "Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse" war, a war that opens up the Great Tribulation period (Rev 6:1-8). This would have the effect of reducing the U.S. down to primitive conditions and thus "knocking it off” the “world stage.”

I too expect an invasion to eventually happen. What has changed is my assumption about the timing of it all. I am now expecting such an attack to happen not at the beginning, but 3 ½ years later at the very end of the Tribulation period. It is an assumption I base on what is stated in Revelation 16:17-19 about the judgment on "Babylon," during the days of the seventh vial judgment. This would imply that the United States remains intact and a great power right up unto the end.
In addition, I would argue that it is *America* that is rapidly becoming the heart of this Antichrist system, *not* Europe. I say this based on the fact that although there is a lot of speculation about what characteristics the Antichrist must have, there are at least two clues given that are fairly indisputable and easily-recognized in their fulfillment. They are, **one**, his nation must be a great military power—("Who is like unto the Beast? Who is able to make war with him?”—Rev 13:4). **Two**, he will lead his armies into the Middle East, "overflowing, passing over, and entering into" that region (Dan 11:40-45).

There's even a **third** clue, almost universally-held within prophecy circles that the Antichrist will make a "covenant" with Israel, which is interpreted to mean a political / military treaty (Dan 9:27). Myself, I don't interpret “covenant” here as a political treaty between the Antichrist and Israel but is a reference to Jesus Christ confirming the spiritual covenant in His 3 ½ year ministry. The fact that Israel’s only constant and consistent friend in the world has been the United States would strongly suggest that the Antichrist will be an American President anyway who becomes a “beast” ruler (Rev 13:1 ff) for a Great Tribulation of 3 ½ years (vs. 5). Truth be told, Israel technically isn’t even an ally of the US in that the two nations do not have just such a political treaty binding them together now. But why does she *need* one when we back her like we do anyhow?

Bottom line, there just isn't any other nation in the world that is fulfilling these clues except that of America. As was noted, Europe after two devastating wars the past century just doesn't have any fire in its belly to be a great military force in the earth anymore. Neither do they have any compelling religious impetus behind their goals, having taken such a deliberately secular course.

But the United States? It has both the political (Wall Street-backed) will and the religious (Christian Right/Redeemer Nation) will. And now she's deeply entangled with Israel who sees herself as her own kind of “exceptional nation.” Who else can these things be referring to?

#2. The assumption that the "feet and toes of iron and clay" of Daniel 2:33 & 42 must mean some sort of a latter day "revised Roman Empire" and "seat of the Antichrist,” a role the EU supposedly fills.

To elaborate further on this prophecy, in Daniel chapter 2 King Nebuchadnezzar has a dream he can neither remember nor understand. Through a series of Divine circumstances, Daniel comes to tell the king the dream and the meaning of it.

The dream basically deals with a statue in the plain of Shinar made up of different metals, each of which represents mostly future empires in world history. Daniel tells the king the "head of gold" represents his kingdom, ancient Babylon. It is furthermore generally assumed by historians that the "breast and arms of silver" are Medo-Persia, and the "belly and thighs of brass" Greece under Alexander.
In verse 40 the legs of iron are said to refer to a "fourth kingdom…strong as iron," which is almost universally assumed to be the ancient Roman Empire. And yet because of this, there is this assumption that the fifth empire, a last and future days one with "feet and toes of iron and clay," must of necessity refer to some kind of a latter day "revived" Roman Empire, in other words the European Union.

The problem with this interpretation is that the ancient Roman Empire and the modern EU only share a partial overlap of territory. The Roman Empire rimmed the Mediterranean and included northern Africa, while today's EU excludes Africa yet includes parts of Germany, Scotland, Ireland and all the Scandinavian countries that ancient Rome did not occupy.

All the same there can be some kind of a cultural continuum. The ancient Roman Empire was a hard-nosed, military power-based empire that crushed all that stood in its path. Like today’s “Shock and Awe” American counterparts who have been so willing to use torture and Blitzkreig-like tactics to get their way, so likewise the Romans who perfected the excruciating cruelty of crucifixion to intimidate any opposition into silence and inaction. In similar manner, to be a citizen of Rome did afford some legal protection back then (Acts 22:25-28). Likewise as of this writing, some Constitutional protections are still available to American citizens but not to foreign “enemy combatants.”

But more to the point, it is plainly said within this prophecy that iron does not represent some sort of a geographical or cultural continuum but rather "strength," while the clay represents "brokenness" (vs. 42). This "brokenness" is said to be an ironic
"weakness" founded in a "mingling of the seed of men," such that they will “not cleave one to another."

The assumption usually made is that this is a picture of the United Nations dominated by the EU and eventually headed by a European leader known as the Antichrist. The UN is interpreted here to be that “mingling of the seed of men” incorporating all these diverse nations into a sort of "shotgun marriage" that will struggle to remain united.

But the reality is very different. The United States is itself something of a Tower of Babel-like “nation of nations” within itself. At the same time she is also the imperial head of a world network of terrorized vassal states whose merchants have “waxed rich” and whose kings have waxed strong by "commit[ting] fornication" with her (Rev 18:3). She is also head of vast military coalitions at times, mostly to give the illusion of consensus. In Afghanistan alone, the US cobbled together an international coalition of some fifty nations no less, to subdue the rag tag Taliban. Nothing that large has been seen since the days of Rome’s war with Carthage.⁹

At any rate one thing is clear—there is no necessity that this prophecy has to refer to Europe.

#3. The assumption that the "ten horns" which give their consent and put their authority behind the "little horn" or Antichrist "for one hour" (i.e., a little while) must somehow be connected to this European Union/Revised Roman Empire.

It says in Daniel 7:7 and elsewhere that these ten horns or powers are on the fourth last days beast empire. This empire is the latter day Great Babylon or the United States, so these horns emerge out of America, not the European Union. If you buy into the latter theory however, you'll be very confused for it has been a long, long time since the EU was comprised of only ten nations. At this point, it’s comprised of 27 member nations.

Therefore, any other theories built upon the European one fall apart as well. This would include a kind of "unseen hand" of "ten master Illuminists" behind the scenes, the Club of Rome’s 1972 plan to divide the world up into ten regions (highly unlikely anyhow because Third World nations will receive no power in the coming days), the “Da Vinci Code” theory of them coming out of European royalty, the Prince Charles-as-the-Antichrist theory since he supposedly has the purest royal blood flowing in him, etc.

I would think that the ten FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) regions of the United States created for a time of national emergency may have something to do with this clue.¹⁰ Even more pointedly, President Obama signed executive order # 13528 on January 11, 2010 creating a “Council of Governors” mandated by the fiscal year 2008 Defense Authorization Act signed by President Bush.

This council consists of 10 state governors, five Republicans and five Democrats, to serve as coordinators with the Federal government during times of national emergency.
They are to coordinate with the Secretaries of Homeland Security and Defense, the NORTHCOR Commander and the heads of the Coast Guard and the National Guard. My guess is these ten state governors will be the ten “horns” (a symbol of authority) that give their consent to a “little horn…speaking great things.” I say this because Daniel 7:24 says these ten horns will come “out of this kingdom.” These horns give their "power and strength to the beast" (Rev 17:13), with three regions more liberal than the rest attempting a revolt or secession (Dan 7:8,20,24). At the least, people should stop looking to Europe for this fulfillment.

#4. The assumption that this Antichrist, on behalf of Europe, becomes the grand Protector of Israel, going so far as to make a "peace treaty" with her.

As I briefly mentioned above, I have never been comfortable with this "peace treaty" idea. It is derived from Daniel 9:27 where it is said someone will "confirm the covenant with many" for “one week,” with the assumption being that this "covenant" must of necessity be a political peace treaty. It is a truth almost fixed in stone in most prophecy circles.

This personality is said to be the futuristic Antichrist, interpreted to be the "prince that shall come" in verse 26, even though the natural explanation for this is in the person of Titus, the ancient Roman general who did indeed, “destroy the city and the sanctuary” in 70 A.D. What’s more, the subject of that verse is not this “prince”, but "the people of the prince" that shall come…” In other words, the subject there is plural. Yet verse 27 refers to some singular "he." If that is the case, then the next previous singular subject in the text is “the Messiah” in 26a who is said to be "cut off" in the "midst of the week,” with the term “week” there (literally) referring to “a seven” (a period of seven years).

Thus, according to Daniel 9:24, since there are 70 of these seven-year periods, 490 in all, marked from “the commandment to restore and to [re]build Jerusalem”—vs. 25), the incarnation of Jesus Christ happened at just the right time. This would be some amazing proof of His claim to Messiahship for the Jewish people if their rabbis hadn’t so poisoned their minds to Him.11

What we do know is that Jesus ministered for a 3 1/2 year period and was then "cut off" by the leaders of Israel and crucified (9:26). The New Testament also twice affirms that He appeared to "confirm the covenant with the fathers," meaning the spiritual covenant made by God with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob mentioned in Romans 15:8 and Galatians 3:15. All this could imply that Daniel’s so-called “70th Week” may have started at the beginning of Christ’s ministry on earth, lasted 3 ½ years, was suspended with the Crucifixion, and thus left the second 3 ½ years to be fulfilled collectively through His true remnant during the Great Tribulation (Rev 11:2,3; Dan 12:7).

Even if this is not about a spiritual covenant but a political treaty, how in the world could a European politician fulfill this prophecy, given their attitudes toward Israel and their treatment of the Palestinians?
#5. The assumption that the Antichrist will be a Pope, a Muslim messiah, a New Age religious leader and the like.

The Antichrist is definitely a male political leader. He is pointedly referred to as a king in a number of passages such as Daniel 11:36ff. The False Prophet may be a religious leader (Rev 13:11) but the Antichrist will cause “astounding devastation” in the earth through war (Dan 8:24). Just because it says “through peace he shall destroy many” (8:25) doesn’t necessarily mean he will come in the name of peace. It may refer to ways he plays games with the “peace process” destroying many Palestinians in the process.

The idea of a Muslim making a peace treaty with Israel is ridiculous at this point, especially when the U.S. and Israel are so systematically destroying the Islamic world, and they know it. There is simply no Islamic nation that comes even close to U.S. and Israeli firepower as to conquer Middle Eastern nations (Dan 11:41).

I think he could definitely be a Jew, given Jesus Christ’s cryptic comment to His fellow Jews that “another shall come in his own name and him you will receive” (Jn 5:43) and could even be an Israeli leader. At the very least he will be an American.

For all these reasons and more, it is my conclusion the United States is at the heart of the Last Days prophecies. In the rest of this book I will expand on why I think this is so.

3 (i.e., making money out of money or maximizing profits out of even the most essential of human needs such as health care).
5 When we read statements like “and power was given him [the Beast] over all kindreds, and tongues, and nations” such that “no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark” (Rev13:7,17), we have to remember we’re talking about advanced computer chips injected under the skin and the high-tech equipment it takes to use them. That excludes all the developed world at the least plus perhaps most of the East who may never accept this man in the first place.
7 Which is small relative to the country’s productive capacity (GDP) with very low interest rates. It may be an enormous amount aggregate but so is the US economy.
8 It is this kind of a vague expectation that seems to fuel the Christian Right’s paranoia and endless self-pity, looking upon America as an eternally misunderstood good guy that is nonetheless “hated by the rest of the world” for no good reason, in spite of the perpetual headache and danger we are to the other nations.
10 http://www.fema.gov/about/regions/index.shtml
11 According to Jewish Christian Nathanael Kapner, the response he always gets from Jews he presents the prophecies about the Messiah to it, “I’m a Jew. I was born a Jew, I’ll die a Jew.” Indeed, in Jewish culture, there is a constant affirmation that one’s identity is not self-chosen but
something you’re born with, an amazing contradiction given how many Jews supported Martin Luther King Jr. who put forth the famous dictum that it’s not about color of skin (or any other earthly quality) but content of character. And to God, indeed it is.