

I WRITE

As I See It

By Barton W. Marsh

As a rule it is well to tread lightly in the realm of unfulfilled prophecy. However, when human powers have for centuries been under surveillance of prophecy, and have step by step to the present moment fulfilled the prophetic specifications, it is highly proper to given consideration to events which are still future. The world is in a tangle of rising difficulty, and the tension is growing tighter every moment.

Prophecy teaches us that immediately preceding the coming of the Lord the second time, the world will for a short time be organized and directed by three powers. We understand the Bible to teach that these three forces are definitely taking shape at this time, and that the entire world is falling into line to accept this leadership. These powers are designated in prophecy as the dragon, the beast and the false prophet. We quote: "And the

sixth angel poured out his vial upon the great river Euphrates; and the waters thereof were dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared. 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 to the kings of the earth and of the whole world to gather them to the battle of the great day of God Almighty. Blessed is he that watcheth and keepeth his garment, lest he walk naked and they see his shame. And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon." Revelation 16:12-16. This chapter portrays the coming of the Lord. The above described events transpire under the sixth plague. The coming of the Lord takes place under the seventh plague.

If it is impossible for us to understand who the dragon, the beast and the false prophet are, then this prophecy is of less

value to us than the paper upon which it is written. If the Bible cannot be understood at the proper season for enlightenment relative to its various symbols and metaphors, then it is of no value to us as guide in times of necessity, and this befuddled world should look elsewhere for guidance. I thank God that I believe the Bible is His inspired Word and is a safe and dependable guide for us upon who the ends of the world have come.

We understand the dragon symbolizes the nations that worship idols and make them demigods of men. The beast, a combination religious-political government that will dominate Europe, (the ten subdivisions of old pagan Rome) and will exercise great influence over the dragon (paganism) and false prophet. The false prophet, is in the western hemisphere what the beast is in Europe; a religious-political governing power.

From these three powers proceed the evil spirits that gather the entire world for the battle of Armageddon. This is not a battle of the nations. It is a battle of the nations. It is marshalled and directed by spiritual forces, of whom Satan himself is the commander-in-chief. Jesus Christ, the captain of the Lord's host lead the armies of heaven in this battle and the result is final. The battle is waged over the Law of God (ten commandments), and the lives of those who have kept His law and honored all its ten precepts.

If you will forcefully and seriously read the 12, 13, 16 and 20 chapters of Revelation, you will discover all that has been recorded in this article and much more of equal importance.

Yes, the Bible has much to say about Russia as a latter day factor in all the affairs of man. Russia is neither dragon, beast nor false prophet. This power is something different, and while the world waits eagerly to hear what the 51 nations will do with this strange power that seems to stand alone among the nations, we shall next week endeavor to portray what the Bible reveals is about to happen to Russia.

Local News Items

A group of local people, including John Ginther, who will teach here this year, went to the new

school building last Saturday to complete the painting which has been held up for lack of funds. All the people working there Saturday, donated their work.

Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Duzan and two children of Dayton, visited briefly here Friday en route to Coos Bay from Eureka. Gordon, a barber, expects to go to work at Coos Bay.

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