

BIBLE TRAINING SCHOOL

THE SEVEN TRUMPETS PART 2 • Friday, November 13, 2009 • Instructor: Arminda Perch
PO Box 325 • Manteca, CA 95336 • 916-222-1580 • www.mygospelworkers.org



“And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea: and the third part of the sea became blood” (Revelation 8:7)

The Campaign of Genseric & the Vandals, 419-456 A.D / “Master of the Seas”, Sacked Rome 455 A.D.

Great Mountain Signifies a World-Wide Nation

Daniel 2:35 “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.**”

Daniel 8:8, 9 “Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the **great horn was broken**; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven.” And out of one of them came forth a little horn, which waxed **exceeding great, toward the south, and toward the east, and toward the pleasant land.**”

Daniel 8:21 “And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the **great horn that is between his eyes is the first king.**”

Great Burning Mountain Cast into the Sea Signifies God’s Judgment

(Note: Sea also signifies the character of the battle – on the sea; Alaric’s trumpet was cast on the earth or by land)

Jeremiah 51:24-25 “And I will render unto Babylon and to all the inhabitants of Chaldea all their evil that they have done in Zion in your sight, saith the LORD. Behold, I am against thee, O destroying mountain, saith the LORD, which destroyest all the earth: and I will stretch out mine hand upon thee, and roll thee down from the rocks, and **will make thee a burnt mountain.** And they shall not take of thee a stone for a corner, nor a stone for foundations; but **thou shalt be desolate for ever**, saith the LORD.”

Exodus 15:3, 4 “The LORD is a man of war: the LORD is his name. Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath he cast into the sea: his chosen captains also are drowned in the Red Sea.”

Zechariah 9:4 “Behold, **the Lord will cast her out, and he will smite her power in the sea**; and **she shall be devoured with fire.**”

Revelation 18:21 “And a mighty angel took up a stone like a great millstone, and **cast it into the sea**, saying, Thus **with violence** shall that great city Babylon be thrown down, **and shall be found no more at all.**”

“These mountains to me are significant. Subterranean fires, although concealed in them, are burning. When the wicked shall have filled their cup of iniquity then the Lord will rise out of His place to punish the inhabitants of the earth. He will show the greatness of His power. The supreme Governor of the universe will reveal to men who have made void His law that His authority will be maintained. There is a furnace of fire in these old rocky mountains. The mountain belching forth its fires tells us the mighty furnace is kindled, waiting for God's word to wrap the earth in flames...” (Ms 29, 1885, pp. 15-17)

Sea Becomes Blood Because They Were Persecutors of the People of God

Revelation 16:3-6: “And the second angel poured out his vial upon the sea; and it became as the blood of a dead [man]; and every living soul died in the sea. And the third angel poured out his vial upon the rivers and fountains of waters; and they became blood. And I heard the angel of the waters say, Thou art righteous, O Lord, which art, and wast, and shalt be, because thou hast judged thus. For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets, and thou hast given them blood to drink; for they are worthy.”

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Genseric the King of the Vandals Battled by Sea and was Known as Master of the Sea

“Genseric ... was the bastard son of Godigisus (Procop. *Bell. Vand.* i. 3) or Modigisus (*Hist. Miscell* 14), king of the Vandal settlers in Spain, and left, in conjunction with his brother Gontharis or Gonderic, in possession of the throne. His life divides itself into two parts: 1st, the conquest of Africa (A. D. 429—439); 2nd, the naval attacks on the empire itself (A. D. 439—477).” (Smith, 1870, p. 244)

“Genseric occupied sixteen years in preparations to sack Rome, ... He devoted all the energy of his nature to construct a navy — not merely one capable of making raids upon the rebellious towns to the west of him, but one so great as to ensure for him the mastery...” (Bigelow, 1918, p. 71)

“Rome and its inhabitants were delivered to the licentiousness of the Vandals and Moors whose blind passions revenged the injuries of Carthage. The pillage lasted fourteen days and nights (AD 455 June 15-29) and all that yet remained of public or private wealth was diligently transported to the vessels of Genseric.” (Gibbon & Smith, 1857, p. 267)

“SACK OF ROME BY GENSERIC (A.D. 455). — The Vandal chief failed not to seize such a golden opportunity. With a large fleet he crossed the Mediterranean sailed up the Tiber and entered Rome. Unable to do more, St. Leo obtained from him that the lives and buildings should be spared. But the work of pillage went on for 14 days. The Vandals loaded their ships with ornaments of gold and silver...” (Vuibert, 1886, p. 615)

“... Little cared Genseric whither he steered. When his pilot asked whither he should bend his course, ‘Where God sends us,’ was the reply; ‘the winds will bear us against those with whom God is wroth.’ Rome had partially recovered from the sack by the Goths and thither the Vandals sailed. For fourteen days and nights the city was given up to plunder. Among the booty was the seven branched candlestick and the golden table which Titus had taken from the temple at Jerusalem four centuries before.” (The Christian Parlor Book, 1849, p. 98-99)

“In May A. D. 429Genseric crossed the straits of Gibraltar, at the head of 50,000 men, to take possession of the Roman provinces in the north of Africa. ... [H]e ravaged the whole country with frightful severity. Of the two chief cities, Hippo fell before him. After the death of Augustin, and the flight of Bonifacius, in 431, and the capture of Carthage, in October 439, the whole province was divided amongst the Vandals, and every city, except Carthage, dismantled.” (Smith, 1870, p. 244)

“The loss or desolation of the provinces from the Ocean to the Alps impaired the glory and greatness of Rome: her internal prosperity was irretrievably destroyed by the separation of Africa. The rapacious Vandals confiscated the patrimonial estates of the senators and intercepted the regular subsidies which relieved the poverty and encouraged the idleness of the plebeians.” (Gibbon & Smith, 1857, p. 266)

“Twice the empire endeavoured to revenge itself, and twice it failed. The first was the attempt of the Western emperor Majorian (A. D. 457), whose fleet was destroyed in the bay of Carthage. The second was the expedition sent by the Eastern emperor Leo, under the command of Heraclius, Marcellinus, and Bantiscus (A. D. 468), which was also baffled by the burning of the fleet off Bona.” (Smith, 1870, p. 244)

“But Genseric did not wait for the Roman fleet to come to attack him in his capital. When he got word that it was in the Bay of Carthage, he sailed there with a fleet of his own and in a single day burned or sank nearly all the Roman ships.

After this the Vandals became more than ever the terror of the Mediterranean and all the countries bordering upon it. Every year their ships went round the coasts from Asia Minor to Spain, attacking and plundering cities on their way and carrying off prisoners.

All the efforts of the Romans failed to put a stop to these ravages. The Emperor Leo, who ruled over the eastern division of the Empire, fitted out a great fleet at Constantinople to make another attempt to suppress the pirates. There were more than a thousand ships in this fleet and they carried a hundred thousand men. The command of the expedition was given to Basilicus (Bas-il'-i-cus), the brother of Emperor Leo's wife.

Basilicus sailed with his ships to Africa and landed the army not far from Carthage. Genseric asked for a truce for five days

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to consider terms of peace, and the truce was granted. But the cunning Vandal was not thinking of peace. He only wanted time to carry out a plan he had made to destroy the Roman fleet.

One dark night, during the truce, he filled the largest of his ships with some of the bravest of his soldiers, and they sailed silently and cautiously in among the Roman ships, towing behind them large boats filled with material that would easily burn.

These boats were set on fire and floated against the Roman vessels, which also were soon on fire. The flames quickly spread, and in a very short time a great part of the Roman fleet was destroyed. Basilicus fled with as many ships as he could save, and returned to Constantinople.” (Haaren, n.d., ¶3)

Papacy Again Arises as Political/State Broker During the Siege of Genseric

In the campaigns of Genseric we see the papacy being involved in national affairs. Pope Leo entreated with Genseric to spare the lives of the people in the city, to which Genseric agreed. However, when the city was sacked, Genseric did not abide by the agreement. (Ridpath, 1885)

“The heads of the Catholic community met him in state and in return for this and other services, the Vandals promised to spare all Christian sanctuaries. To be sure, Genseric had but fourteen days of pillage; but with a willing army and a large auxiliary.” (Bigelow, 1918, p. 79)

“There is stronger evidence to the fact that three years later, Leo saved Rome from destruction by his intercession with an enemy. Genseric, king of the Vandals, in Africa ... advanced to the neighborhood of Rome with a fleet and army, and compelled an immediate surrender. Leo could not save the city from plunder; but he successfully pleaded with the barbarian king to secure it from the horrors of massacre and fire. On this occasion many prisoners were carried away to Africa as slaves, where they succeeded in converting not a few of their masters to the Christian faith, and afterwards, at their request, received from Leo a body of clergy to superintend their new Church.” (Riddle, 1856, p. 182)

“The fleets of Genseric were the same terror to the coasts of the Mediterranean as those of Carthage had been six centuries before, and as those of the Normans were four centuries afterwards. In June 455, ... Genseric sailed to Ostia; and, although somewhat mitigated by the supplications of Pope Leo, who again interceded for his country at the gates of Rome, he attacked and sacked the city for fourteen days and nights...” (Smith, 1870, p. 244)

“Three years later, Rome was again attacked, this time by the Vandal Genseric, who indeed plundered Rome, but at Leo's persuasion, agreed not to violate the inhabitants. Leo ministered to the stricken populace and worked to rebuild the city and its churches. He also sent missionaries to Africa to minister to the captives Genseric took back with him. Leo died in Rome on November 10, 461. His legacy advanced the influence of the papacy to unprecedented heights. In a time of great disorder, he forged an energetic central authority which affected the papacy for centuries to come.” (Saint Leo the Great, n.d., ¶13).

“Though his intervention had not been attended with the success of his appeal to Attila, Leo had none the less really effected some alleviation of the distresses which had fallen upon the city. The fact that he, and he alone, at such a crisis, had availed to effect anything, that he had stood forth a second time as the shield of Rome could not but greatly enhance the prestige which he had gained three years before. At this fateful moment the Pope could hardly be regarded as otherwise than by far the most important personage in Rome and in Italy. The dispersion of the aristocracy must, in equal measure, have contributed to raise the relative importance of the clergy as compared with the other classes in the community. Comparatively speaking, at all events, the Church had once more abode in strength when every other social institution had been shaken to its base. The shadowy forms of several puppet emperors flit quickly by; but the Supreme Pontiff sits firm in St. Peter's chair, unfaltering and unappalled, unquestionably the foremost man in Rome.” (Beet, 1910, p. 273)

“On the third day after the tumult Genseric boldly advanced from the port of Ostia to the gates of the defenceless city. Instead of a sally of the Roman youth there issued from the gates an unarmed and venerable procession of the bishop at the head of his clergy. The fearless spirit of Leo, his authority and eloquence, again mitigated the fierceness of a barbarian conqueror: the king of the Vandals promised to spare the unresisting multitude, to protect the buildings from fire, and to exempt the captives from torture; and although such orders were neither seriously given nor strictly obeyed, the mediation of Leo was glorious to himself and in some degree beneficial to his country.” (Gibbon & Smith, 1857, p. 266 & 267)

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“And the third angel sounded, and there fell a great star from heaven, burning as it were a lamp, and it fell upon the third part of the rivers, and upon the fountains of waters; And the name of the star is called Wormwood: and the third part of the waters became wormwood; and many men died of the waters, because they were made bitter.” (Revelation 8:10, 11)

Campaign of Attila & the Huns, 432-453 A.D. Invasion of Italy (452 A.D.)
“The Scourge of God” (Unlike Alaric and Genseric who were Arians, Attila was non-Christian)

Great Star = Attila the Hun = Star = Angel or messenger

Revelation 1:20 “The mystery of the seven stars which thou sawest in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which thou sawest are the seven churches.”

Great Star = Mighty, notable, man of great

Daniel 8:8 “Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven.”

Daniel 8:21 “And the rough goat is the king of Grecia: and the great horn that is between his eyes is the first king.”

Falling Star denotes an apostate power

Luke 10:18 “And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.”

Isaiah 14:12 “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!*”

Does God use apostate powers to execute his judgment? - Yes

Isaiah 45:1 “Thus saith the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have holden, to subdue nations before him; and I will loose the loins of kings, to open before him the two leaved gates; and the gates shall not be shut.”

Jeremiah 25:9 “Behold, I will send and take all the families of the north, saith the LORD, and Nebuchadrezzar the king of Babylon, my servant, and will bring them against this land, and against the inhabitants thereof, and against all these nations round about, and will utterly destroy them, and make them an astonishment, and an hissing, and perpetual desolations.”

Rivers & Fountains of Waters Denote Locations where there was a Clean Water Source, and in the High Places and in the Valleys (mountainous region)

Leviticus 11:36 “Nevertheless a fountain or pit, wherein there is plenty of water, shall be clean: but that which toucheth their carcase shall be unclean.”

Isaiah 41:18 “I will open rivers in high places, and fountains in the midst of the valleys: I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water.”

Deuteronomy 8:7 “For the LORD thy God bringeth thee into a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills.”

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“Attila ruled over a territory bordered by the Danube, the Volga and the Baltic. He had a large head, square shoulders, swarthy complexion, deep eyes and flat nose. In 450 A.D. he ravaged the upper Danube, and followed the Rhine from Basle to Belgium and made its valley desolate. Attila became known as ‘the scourge of God.’ Defeated in the battle of Cahlons in 451 A.D., Attila and his Huns made the Alpine lake and river country and the valleys of the Po all desolate...” (Hemenway, 2007, p. 51)

"It is said particularly that the effect would be on 'the rivers' and on 'the fountains of waters.' If this has a literal application ... then we may suppose that this refers to those portions of the empire that abounded in rivers and streams, and more particularly those in which the rivers and streams had their origin for the effect was permanently in the 'fountains of waters.' As a matter of fact, the principal operations of Attila were in the regions of the Alps, and on the portions of the empire whence the rivers flow down into Italy. The invasion of Attila is described by Gibbon in this general language” (Barnes, 1859, p. 235)

Wormwood Means Curse, Bitterness, Accursed, Hemlock – Denotes Judgment Come Down from God & Destruction, Affliction, and the End

Jeremiah 9:13-16 “And the LORD saith, Because they have forsaken my law which I set before them, and have not obeyed my voice, neither walked therein; But have walked after the imagination of their own heart, and after Baalim, which their fathers taught them: Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel; Behold, I will feed them, even this people, with wormwood, and give them water of gall to drink. I will scatter them also among the heathen, whom neither they nor their fathers have known: and I will send a sword after them, till I have consumed them.”

Jeremiah 23:15 “Therefore thus saith the LORD of hosts concerning the prophets; Behold, I will feed them with wormwood, and make them drink the water of gall: for from the prophets of Jerusalem is profaneness gone forth into all the land.”

Hosea 10:4 “They have spoken words, swearing falsely in making a covenant: thus judgment springeth up as hemlock in the furrows of the field.”

2 Kings 14:26 “For the LORD saw the affliction of Israel, that it was very bitter: for there was not any shut up, nor any left, nor any helper for Israel.”

Lamentations 3:19 “Remembering mine affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall”

Deuteronomy 32:24 “They shall be burnt with hunger, and devoured with burning heat, and with bitter destruction: I will also send the teeth of beasts upon them, with the poison of serpents of the dust.”

Jeremiah 4:12, 14, 18 “Even a full wind from those places shall come unto me: now also will I give sentence against them. O Jerusalem, wash thine heart from wickedness, that thou mayest be saved. How long shall thy vain thoughts lodge within thee? Thy way and thy doings have procured these things unto thee; this is thy wickedness, because it is bitter, because it reacheth unto thine heart.”

Proverbs 5:3, 4 “For the lips of a strange woman drop as an honeycomb, and her mouth is smoother than oil: But her end is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword.”

“The absinthe plant –Wormwood—grows freely in the Alps and is bitter and is associated with gall in scripture (c.p. Deut. 29:18). Wormwood (Aspinthos) is the name of a river in the Illyrian region ruled by Attila.” (Hemenway, 2007, p. 51)

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“Attila burnt cities, massacred and enslaved inhabitants and generally caused despair, famine, and bitterness. The Huns devastated the inhabitants of the Italian Alps—the source of rivers, causing pollution and disease for those who drank.” (Hemenway, 2007, p. 51)

“The Huns were savage and fierce fighters, the most powerful of all the barbarians. Under the leadership of Attila, they pushed towards Gaul. Because both the other barbarian tribes and the Romans feared the Huns, they united in battle to fight the Huns at Chalons in A.D. 451. Attila and his armies were turned back and the power of the Huns was broken.” (Arnold, 1999, ¶8)

“The Latin traditions of Gaul gave him the name of the *Scourge of God* and supposed that he gloried in it... But in the desolations of Attila the empire had learned a new experience of its helplessness.” (Church, 1907, p. 22)

“The Illyrian frontier was covered by a line of castles and fortresses; and though the greatest part of them consisted only of a single tower, with a small garrison, they were commonly sufficient to repel, or to intercept, the inroads of an enemy who was ignorant of the art, and impatient of the delay, of a regular siege. But these slight obstacles were instantly swept away by the inundation of the Huns. They, destroyed, with fire and sword The whole breadth of Europe, as it extends above five hundred miles from the Euxine to the Hadriatic, was at once invaded, and occupied, and desolated, by the myriads of barbarians whom Attila led into the field.” (Gibbon, 1782, Chapter 34)

Papacy Arises to Have More Political Clout

“In 451, having suffered a setback on the Plains of Chalons, by the allied Romans and Visigoths, Attila turned his attention to Italy. After having laid waste to Aquileia and many Lombard cities in 452, the Scourge of God met Pope Leo I who dissuaded him from sacking Rome.” (Kralic, 2009, ¶3)

“Attila advanced towards Rome. The conqueror of Chalons, Aetius, hung on his march but was unable to arrest him. But Attila's army was suffering from exhaustion and disease and he yielded at least for the time to the supplications and offers of the Roman ambassadors one of whom was the great Pope Leo.” (Church, 1907, 22)

“Upon Reaching Rome, he was persuaded to turn back by Pope Leo. Refugees were driven to marshy islands where they founded Venice.” (Hemenway, 2007, p. 51)

Attila was hesitant to sack Rome because of superstition, but was contemplating it when a Roman embassy was sent to meet him in his camp. Pope Leo was a part of the Roman embassy who were sent on behalf of “The Emperor and the Senate and People of Rome” Leo proved himself a successful ambassador and negotiated peace, although Rome surrendered a portion of its wealth and the daughter of the Augusta Placidia. (Hodgkin, 1892)

“Although he had companions in his peril and his success, it is little open to question that, from the first, Leo was the real hero of the day. To him, more than to any other, at this crisis, the Roman Emperor, if not the people also, looked for aid; and, as they congratulated themselves, had not looked in vain. His personal prestige and that of his Apostolic Chair were, both alike, immeasurably enhanced thereby. In the person of Leo, as in that of none of his predecessors, the Head of the Roman Church became a personage of the first importance in the State, more than the peer of senators and military chiefs—the buttress of a throne and the preserver of the social fabric.” (Beet, 1910, p. 265)

“The renown and the gratitude which Leo I earned by this interposition placed the Papal Chair many steps higher in the estimation both of Rome and of the world. In the dark days which were coming the senate and people of Rome were not likely to forget that when the successor of Caesar had been proved useless the successor of Peter had been a very present help. And thus it is no paradox to say that indirectly the king of the Huns contributed more perhaps than any other historical personage towards the creation of that mighty factor in the politics of mediaeval Italy the Pope King of Rome.” (Hodgkin, 1892, p. 161)