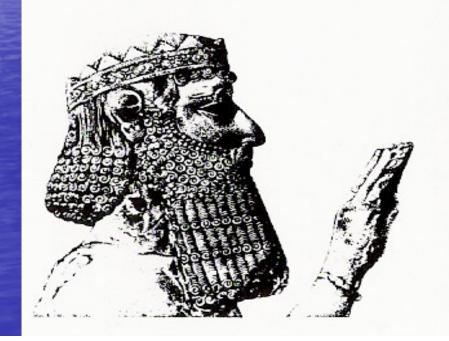
# Daniel Talk 5 "At the end of the days" Chapters 11 and 12

### Daniel Talk 5 "At the end of the days"

- Daniel 11 and 12 are part of his third vision, given in 3<sup>rd</sup> year of Cyrus.
- In the first verse of chapter 11, Gabriel recapitulates how he strengthened Darius the Mede (alias Cyrus) before going on to explain the succession of Persian kings.
- The three kings were Cambyses, Gomates and Darius Hystaspes.



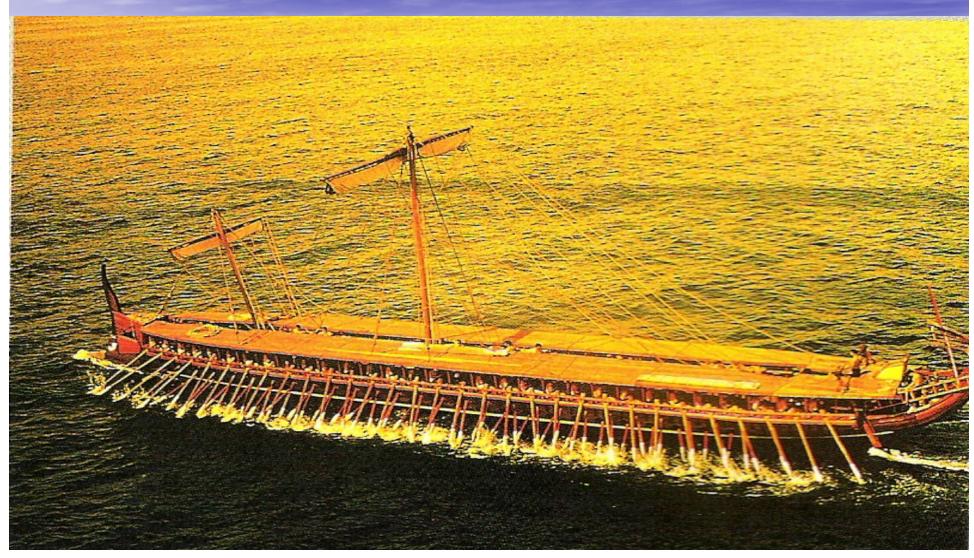
Carved on the rock-face at Behistun is an awe-inspiring portrait of the Persian king, Darius I.



#### The fourth King of Persia: - Xerxes

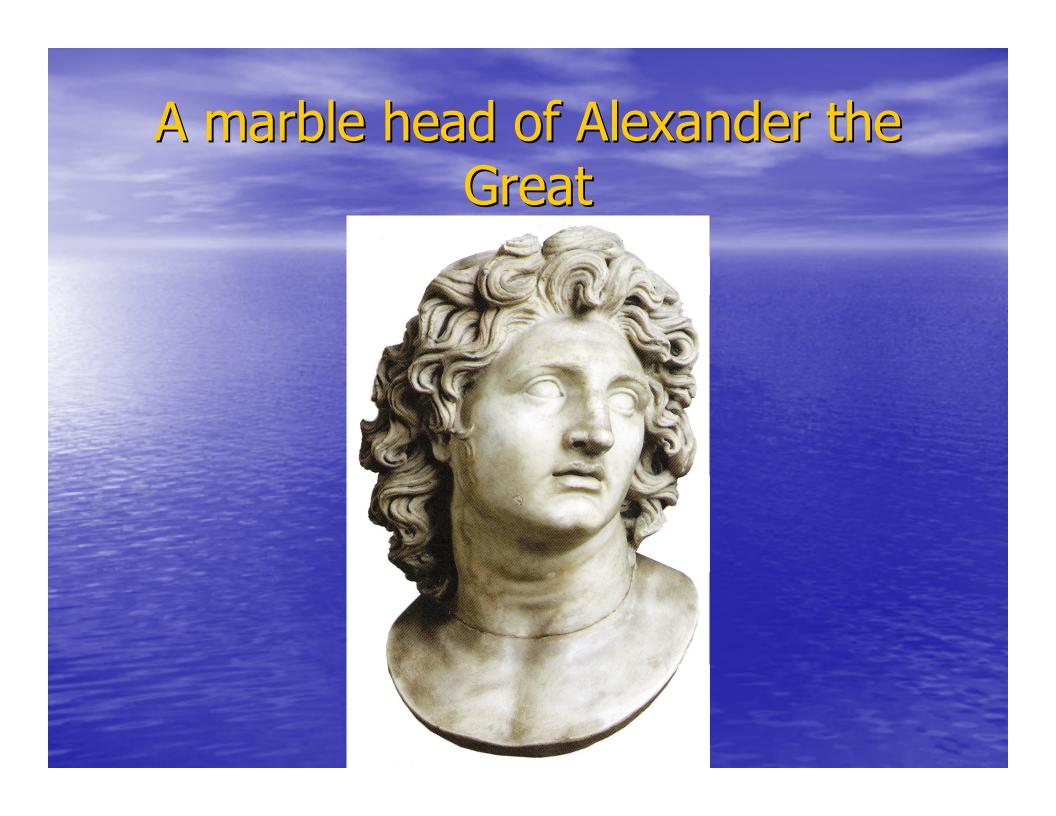
- B.C.485 465, probably the Ahasuerus who married Esther.
- Had great wealth. Commenced an immense naval and military expedition against Greece.
- Several Persian kings not mentioned in the Biblical text.

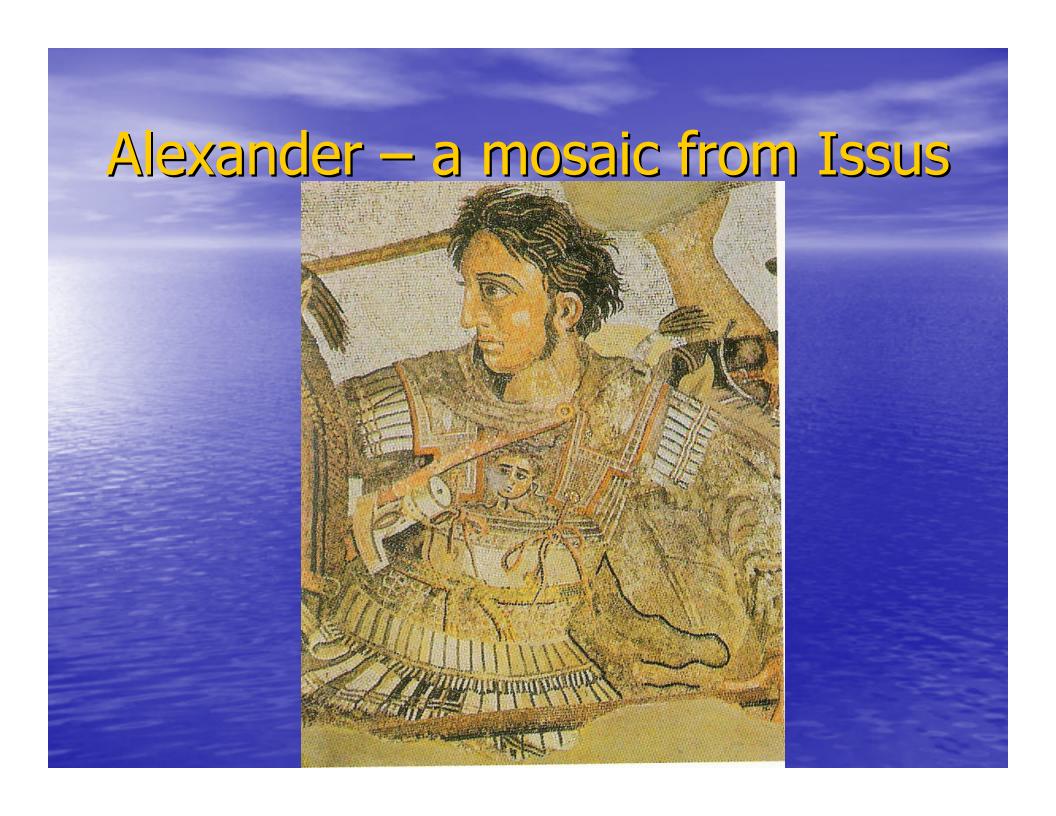




#### Alexander – "a mighty king"

- King of Greece B.C.336-323.
- Defeated Persians at the river Granicus and in Issus, and went on to India.
- Died when 33 years old.
- It is said that he wept after defeating Persia because there were no more worlds to conquer.





#### Divided Greek Empire

- Alexander had no descendant to inherit his throne.
- Four of his generals fought for 20 years over who would rule:
  - -Cassander occupied Greece.
  - -Lysimachus had Asia Minor.
  - -Ptolemy had Egypt.
  - -Seleucus had Syria.

#### Divided Greek Empire

- After a further 20 years fighting the four were reduced to two:
  - -The kings of the North and the South.
- The prophecies of what happened to these two empires (Ptolemaic and Seleucid) would have helped, comforted and warned the Jews living through these times, from B.C.300 to the time of Christ.

#### The Hellenistic civilisation: between the Old and New Testaments B.C.300 - Christ

- Alexander founded many cities, including Alexandria in Egypt.
- He encouraged assimilation, and his soldiers took local women as wives.
- Greek became a common language from India to Spain.
- Religion, pottery, sculpture, coinage and architecture were similar throughout the area.
- The rising power of Rome overwhelmed the Hellenistic civilisation, but the culture continued.

### Greek coin showing Pharos, the lighthouse at Alexandria



### Diver at the submerged port of Alexandria with a sphinx - like statue







### The Kings of the North and the South

- First mention of the Roman power in verse 14:
   "the robbers of thy people", ..."who would fall"
   (ultimately).
- The reign of Antiochus Epiphanes (a King of the North) is minutely detailed in verses 21-31.
- He waged war on Egypt against Ptolemy Philometer, the contemporary King of the South.

#### Antiochus Epiphanes

- Palestine, lying between the warring Kings, suffered terribly. The prince of the covenant, Onias the High Priest, was killed.
- Antiochus "worked deceitfully" (verse 23) and by intrigues peacefully obtained possession of the best areas of Egypt.
- Philometer was then defeated in battle in Egypt (verses 25,26).

### Antiochus places the abomination that desolates the Temple

- Returning to Antioch (in Syria), Antiochus sacked Jerusalem (verses 27,28).
- Ships of Chittim, Greek ships but with Roman ambassadors on board, prevented him from overwhelming the Ptolemies at Alexandria.
- On his way back, Antiochus entered into alliance with unfaithful Jews (verse 30) and destroyed Jerusalem.
- He stopped sacrifices and placed an idol image of Jupiter Olympius in the Temple (verses 31,32).

## The recent visit of President Putin to the Middle East — Echoes of the deceit of Antichus Epiphanes?

The Testimony, June 2005

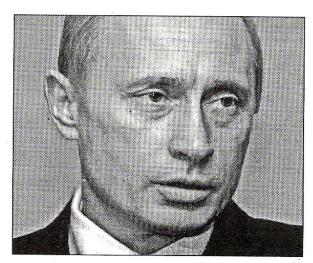
#### Little horn of the goat diplomacy in the Middle East

**Nigel Bernard** 

This article considers the recent visit of President Putin to the Middle East. The Little Horn Prophecy of Daniel 8 and a passage in Daniel 11 relating to Antiochus IV Epiphanes are used to provide Scriptural insight to this visit.

N DANIEL 8 it is written: "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" (vv. 8,9). The "little horn" represents the Roman power which was later to dominate the "pleasant land" of Israel.

Yet the little horn power will also be in existence when Christ returns, for "he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; but he shall be broken without hand" (v. 25). This power, operating to its "south" and "east", will be a latter-day version of the Eastern part of the Roman Empire. When Russia invades the Middle East, occupying *en route* what became the capital of the



Russian President Vladimir Putin, who visited the Middle East in April 2005.

Photograph: NATO

Middle East peace conference should be held in Moscow later in the year. This was welcomed by the Palestinians, but was met with a cool response from Israel, the next country he visited.

### The Maccabees revolt against Antiochus

- The Maccabean brothers were "holpen with a little help", (verse 33) and began to be successful in their fight against the Grecian defilement.
- They experienced a fiery trial that purged them (verse 35).
- They contended for liberty to worship God according to their conscience.
- From these Chasidim ("pious ones") came the Pharisees.

#### Portrait of Judas Maccabeus



#### Fulfilment of Ezekiel's 430 "days"

- Ezekiel 4:1-8: the Prophet lies 390 days on one side for the iniquity of Israel.
- And 40 days on his other side for the iniquity of Judah.
- 430 "days of years" from the destruction of the Temple in B.C.586 brings us to B.C.156 when Judas Maccabeus took control of Jerusalem.

### An alternative view of verse 30-35: a Roman application

- The ships of Chittim are the Romans.
- They desecrate the Temple in A.D.70.
- Later, in A.D.135, Hadrian places a temple to Jupiter on the site of Herod's temple.
- Verses 32-35 would apply to Christians who have acknowledged Jesus as the Messiah.

#### Two desecrations of the Temple

- The context of verses 30-35 can be interpreted either way.
- Believers from both epochs can derive comfort and stimulus from the prophecy.
- Jesus said that the disciples would SEE the abomination (Roman).
- The abomination spoken of in Daniel 12:11 cannot refer to Antiochus Epiphanes' because the daily sacrifices were only suspended then, not abolished.

#### THE KING (Daniel 11:36)

- Verse 40 implies he exists right up to the time of the end, i.e. for more than 2000 years.
- He is not an individual, but a power, or a kingdom.
- He should be identifiable with the "king of fierce countenance" of chapter 8:23 -25, and also Isaiah 30:3 and Deut. 28:49.

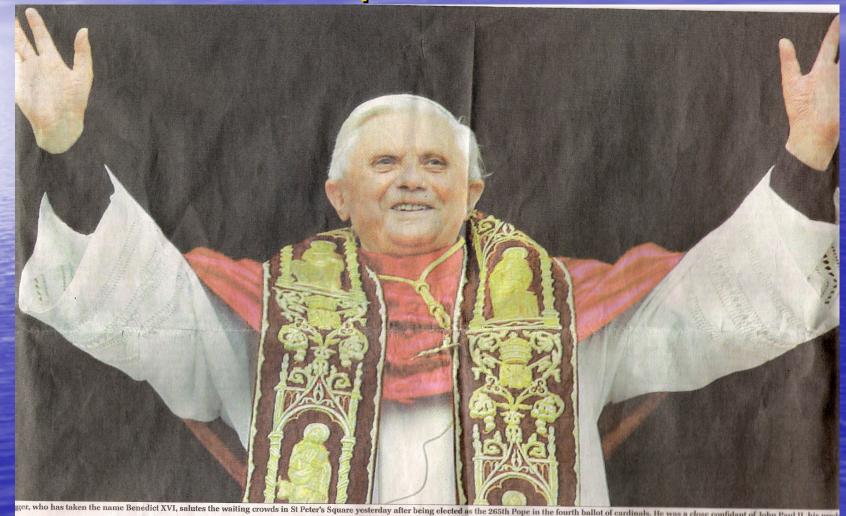
#### THE KING (Daniel 11:36)

- The same as the little horn growing out of one of the four horns of the goat.
- He is a phase of the Roman power.
- Rome took Greece in 145 B.C.
- Rome suppressed the "holy" and abolished the daily sacrifice in A.D.70.
- It became "christian" under Constantine: the "King" changed his gods.

#### THE KING (Daniel 11:36-39)

- Verse 36 indicates supreme power, and also religious dominance.
- He would magnify himself against God, which the Papacy has done and will continue to do until the "indignation" is accomplished. See also 2 Thess.2:3.
- Verse 37 says he will change his gods, and have a celibate priesthood.

#### The Papacy: part of the "King" power



zinger, 78, elected in record time Jubilant pilgrims hail Benedict XVI

### "He will magnify himself against God": Pope Benedict's beliefs

established a Greek college Calabria. In Egypt a body of, Copts, with their patriarch, entered into unity with the e

Catholic bishops.

Reunion with the Orthodit churches was an ambition Pope John Paul's reign whi<sup>N</sup> was left unfulfilled. He named St Cyril and St Methodius as new co-patroS of Europe along with St Benedict, and called the Eastern churches the "othe" lung" of Christianity. The 1 Pope is very familiar with 1d Eastern churches and, 40 (years ago, was delighted when, at a service during t Second Vatican Council, a<sup>Z-</sup> reading from the Gospel w1proclaimed in Greek.

In his first public addres after Mass last Wednesday with the cardinals who

give up his resistance efforts."

Despite question marks over Ratzinger's wartime conduct, the main obstacle to his prospects in the conclave — the assembly of cardinals to elect the new pope — is the conservative stance he has adopted as guardian of Catholic orthodoxy since John Paul named him to head the congregation for the doctrine of the faith in 1981.

His condemnations are legion — of women priests, married priests, dissident theologians and homosexuals, whom he has declared to be suffering from an "objective disorder".

He upset many Jews with a statement in 1987 that Jewish history and scripture reach fulfilment only in Christ — a position denounced by critics as

"theological anti-semitism". He made more enemies among other religions in 2000, when he signed a document, Dominus Jesus, in which he argued: "Only in the Catholic church is there eternal salvation".

Some of his staunchest critics are in Germany. A recent poll in Der Spiegel, the news magazine, showed opponents of a Ratzinger papacy outnumbered supporters by 36% to 29%.

As one western cardinal who was in two minds about him put it: "He would probably be a great pope, but I have no idea how I would explain his election back home."

One liberal theologian, when asked what he thought of a Ratzinger papacy, was more direct: "It fills me with horror."

#### THE KING (Daniel 11:38)

- "God of forces" "god of guardians" (Bro. Thomas), i.e. "Saints" who are supposed to protect the believers and their churches.
- Wealth and great riches have accrued to the Roman Catholic Church over the centuries. See Revelation 18.

### A recent letter to "The Times" on the death of John Paul II

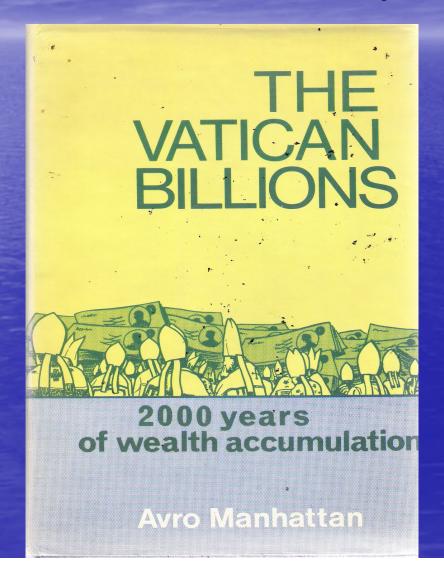
#### From Mr Albert Wallace

Sir, The Catholic Church is the longest-running, most powerful, global business in history . . . and probably the richest.

Now that the chairman and chief operating officer has departed this Earth, it will be the threat to this business that will be uppermost in the minds of the remaining powers seeking a new leader, not how to sustain the simple message of Christ, who didn't need a (bricks and mortar) church to deliver His message, and rode to his own death on a borrowed donkey.

Yours faithfully, ALBERT WALLACE, Chapel Gate, Bayview Road, Port St Mary, Isle of Man IM9 5AE. April 3

### Avro Manhattan's book about the fabulous wealth of the Papal System



### THE KING (Daniel 11:39): his religious and political power

- "the most strong holds with a strange god" = "bazaars of guardians". Brother Thomas sees these as the churches and cathedrals of christendom.
- "Strange god": the change of religion under Constantine.
- "Cause them to rule over many": many nations under the influence of Rome.
- Divide the land for gain": the parishes and dioceses OR could be the Ottoman power in the Holy Land.

#### "The time of the end"

- The "end" is defined by the other uses of the phrase: 7:26; 8:19; 11:35; 12:2,4,6 and 9.
- It is the time of Christ's return, the resurrection and the judgement (of the saints and of the nations).
- The kings of the North and South have reappeared.

### The reappearance of the kings of the North and South

- A situation similar to what existed before the abornination of desolation must exist at the time of the end.
- A sizeable Jewish population must be in the land (the Turkish Ottoman Empire prevented this).
- The king of the South is Egypt or whatever power controls it. (Britain up to 1954, then Russia and now U.S.A.)

### The reappearance of the king of the North

- The king of the North is Turkey, Syria and the rest of the territory of the Seleucid Empire.
- In 1917, the Ottoman Turks were the "King", and Britain and the Allies "pushed at him" to remove him from Palestine.
- Many Brethren believe that Russia and her allies (Ezekiel 38) will become the King of the North when they occupy Turkey prior to invading Israel and the Middle East.

### Reasons for believing Gog and his allies are the future King of the North.

- o Gog
- From uttermost parts of the north
- Comes against the mountains of Israel
- In the latter days
- Ethiopia and Libya with them
- Smitten on the mountains of Israel

- King of the North
- From the north
- Enters the glorious land and the glorious holy mountain
- At the time of the end
- Libyans and Ethiopians at his steps
- Comes to his end and none shall help him

#### Russia is re-arming and Putin wants her to be a world power again

#### Rice attacks Putin over the Kremlin's build-up of power

BY NICK ALLEN

CONDOLEEZZA Rice, the Amerian secretary of state, criticised er Moscow host, President Putin, ter Moscow host, President Puttin, esterday, accusing the Kremlin of amassing too much power. On the first visit to Russia since taking wer as the leading United States iplomat Ms Rice issued a plea for nore "democratic development" and protection for the country's tolky and the protection for the country's

ion. "There needs to be an dependent media so that the Rus-an people can debate and decide

recent moves that have strength-ened Mr Putin's hand – such as the abolition of regional elections, increased pressure on the meaning and the trial of the oil tycoon, Mikhail Khodorkovsky, in a tax fraud case many see as nakedly Krytystal and Krytystal Krytystal Washington has been accused in Washington has been accused in Washington has been accused in the control of the c

It was important that Mr Putin not seek a third term, Ms Rice said. Moscow has been buzzing with speculation this year that the Russian leader will amend the con-

ms Rice defined during ner tarian regime.
Tadio interview that America was "exporting democracy" to former soviet republics that Russia regards in Belarus, which she describe

#### Putin's links to Arabs cast shadow over visit to Israel

By TIM BUTCHER IN JERUSALEM

THE historic visit to Israel of Russian president Vladimir Putin vesterday was overshadowed by a row over Moscow's links with Iran and Syria, two of the most implacable enemies of the Jewish state.

Mr Putin sought to reassure Ariel Sharon, Israel's prime first visit to Israel by a Russian minister, that his country's sale of nuclear components to Teheran and anti-aircraft missiles to Damascus would Egypt and Syria. not change the balance of power in the Middle East.

said Russia's links with Iran in particular were a "cause for concern" and, in what was seen as a snub for Mr Putin. flatly rejected his offer to host a Middle East peace conference in Moscow.

capability has led to suggestions that Israel is preparing on television. a unilateral military strike,

similar to its 1981 attack on Saddam Hussein's nascent nuclear programme.

Concern has been raised by the announcement this week that America, Israel's close military partner, will provide it with 100 bunker-buster bombs, well-suited for attacking Iranian nuclear facilities.

The row overshadowed the leader, after decades of hostility over Russia's support for Arab regimes, most notably

The trip also underscored improved relations between But the Israeli government the two countries. Since the end of the Cold War more than a million Russian Jews have emigrated to Israel, making it the largest single source of Israeli citizens.

Russian language newspapers are widely sold in Israel Iran's growing nuclear and numerous Russian language channels are available

Mr Sharon, whose parents

were born in Russia before moving to Israel in an earlier wave of migration, greeted Mr Putin in his mother tongue, telling him he should "feel among brothers".

The Russian leader, who staged an unscheduled visit to the Wailing Wall, the sacred Jewish shrine in Jerusalem's Old City, was also welcomed to Jerusalem by a full military guard of honour.

But while on the surface the visit appeared cordial, the issue of Syria and Iran soured the atmosphere.

At a press conference, Mr Putin was forced to address the Syrian missile sales. "The system we are going to supply to Syria is short-range and poses no threat whatsoever to Îsraeli territory," he said.

On the nuclear issue, he said that Russia was part of an international diplomatic effort to ensure Iran uses its nuclear technology only for "peaceful means".

# Daily Telegraph: is a Russian Dictator emerging in the same way as Hitler?



## Look back at Weimar – and start to worry about Russia

n an amateurish sort of way, I am a Russophile. It was reading War and Peace as a schoolboy that convinced me I should study history at university. My favourite film is still the Soviet-era adaptation of Tolstoy's masterpiece. Throughout my twenties, I was a Dostoevsky devotee. Even today, I can think of few pleasures to match reading the short stories of Chekhov. And then there is the music: for me, Shostakovich's chilling, haunting piano quintet will always be the signature tune of the 20th century. Yet it was always possible to love Russia and to hate the



satellites, Putin has not hesitated to play the separatist card. He has sought to encourage Abh hazia to secede from Georgia. In Moldova, he has favoured autonomy for the enclave of Transdnistria. When eastern Ukrainians started talking about dividing the country in two rather than concede victory to Yushchenko, you didn't need a degree in Kremlinology to know who was feeding them their lines.

This is where the resemblance between Russia now and Germany in the 1930s seems especially apt. Back then, it was possible for Hitler to point to large German

#### The King of the North invades the Middle East

- Like a whirlwind, and with many ships
- With chariots and horsemen
- Jordan escapes
- Egypt is conquered as Russia has old scores to settle over the Aswan Dam
- Takes Jerusalem

#### Ukraine could sink Russiai

fleet

Times 6/12/04



Sevastopol.

Russia's southern fleet has used this deep-water harbour as a base to patrol the Black Sea and beyond ever since Catherine the Great annexed

Crimea in 1783.

Even after Ukraine won independence from the Soviet Union, the fleet maintained its presence here — after splitting its ships with the new Ukrainian navy — and hatched a deal to rent the port until 2017.

Viktor Yushchenko, the opposi-tion leader who advocates joining Nato and the EU, wins the re-run of the presidentia election on December 26.

own backyard after the arrival of US troops in Afghanistan, Uzbekistan and Georgia, and Nato warplanes in Lithuania

modern, most powerful fleet in the world here," said Mikhail Prokofiel, 64, who served in the Black Sea fleet for 28 years.

Black Sea fleet for 28 years.

"Even Turkey's navy is more powerful than ours today, And if Yushchenko wins, the Black Sea fleet might leave altogether. I cannot believe it."

Mr Yushchenko, anxious not to antagonise Ukraine's main trade partner and energy supplier, has promised not to review the deal with Moscow have no grounds to worry. Our position is clear, consistent and responsible," he said.

But the Kremlin, wary of mixed messages from Kiev under the outgoing President, Leonid Kuchma, has already

drawn up contingency plans.
This year Sergei Ivanov, the
Russian Defence Minister,
announced plans to start

His announcement nonethe-less caused an outcry in Russia ture," said Admiral Eduard Baltin, commander of the Black Sea fleet from 1993-96.

"Due to physical and geographic conditions in Novorossiysk, there is no room for a base there. And there never will be. The Black Sea fleet is vital if Russia is not to lose its influence in the region.

The problem is that Russia's section of the Black Sea coast



#### There shall be a great shaking in the land of Israel



re the first ith a great ings, thousgrets and from the ter off Sri inland, almed amiss. and the sun was unusubreakfast Yala Safari rlooking a Hettige. n the birds in a big were too

f them Briting Christthronging astal resorts. ng on the ners were cobalt blue d fishermen ir nets

n disturbed

I looked

towards the away," said water com-

ds of other s, Hettige, a ralist, knew had to do. to run. I ran and kept on

"To the left of me another gigantic wave came crashing in. I was clinging to the tree re exploring with both hands. It was no good. I was forced to let go of the boy. There was nothing more I could do to save him.

The child, like so many thousands of others in a tragedy unfolding across 10 countries, disappeared, swallowed island of Sumatra, where the by a sea that had not been so cruel for more than a century.

Within the space of a few hours the Indian Ocean destroyed villages, towns and tourist resorts. It smashed

It is the biggest natural disaster for decades. Yet scientists feared such a catastrophe was looming. So why were there no warnings? A special report into the Asian tsunami that claimed more than 120,000 lives

sea bed is always slowly

The vast slab of ocean floor known as the Indian tectonic plate grinds against the Burma plate, being forced downwards into the Earth's molten earthquakes do strike, giant Kerry Sieh, an American

Studies of coral atolls had shown clusters of giant earthquakes in the region occurring about every 230 years. The last cluster had begun in 1797 and ended in 1861.

When such big undersea

expert at an international meeting on tsunamis had pushed for a warning system in the Indian Ocean. He feared that disaster was not far off.

Just three weeks ago Dr

In 2003, one Australian earthquake off Sumatra might be only a few years away. It could, he said, lift the ocean floor up to 6ft, causing a "large tsunami and substantial changes to the coastal environments of the islands"

to take much notice. To many Indonesians, and the many foreigners who travel to Asia, the warnings - if they even saw them - probably seemed

overblown. They knew that the region was prone to volcanic activity Richter and to quakes, but most were localised affairs. Every day there were minor tremors that barely registered or else went unnoticed.

So when Bayu Pranata, the local geophysics officer in Padang, central Indonesia, began his shift last Sunday It sounded rather abstract morning he was expecting ed the nothing unusual

but was un The clas some six ocean floor far and wi

observator alerting Mi "I thoug said later calculated

later a con

was over only a few The se automatic quake wit on 100,00 and Koba alert to t the Japan

agency in Halfway computer and staff seismic c The first the blue s that "it w But within his colle the estin quake, I disastrous

They is tin predic sea level no tsunan The bulle the Pacif amount beneath

# "I will be known in the eyes of many nations" (Ezekiel 38:23)

- "So will I make my holy name known in the midst of my people Israel."
- "So the house of Israel shall know that I am the LORD their God from that day and forward."
- "The heathen shall know that the house of Israel went into captivity for their iniquity."

## Many Brethren think that the resurrection precedes the demise of the king of the North

- Chapter 12:1: "At that time".
- The Son of Man in Ezekiel 38:1 may represent Jesus and the Saints.
- Psalm 149:5-9 says that the Saints have the honour to execute the judgement written.

#### Who is Michael?

- An important angel / archangel: 10:3,21 and also Jude 9.
- Rev 12:7: Michael is symbolic.
- This Michael is the one who looks after the Jewish people, if we are to be consistent.
- Heb. 2:5 says the angels are not in charge as they are at the present time. So when do Jesus and the saints take over?
- When this happens, could Jesus take over the role of Michael?

#### Those responsible to God will rise

- Verse 2: "MANY shall awake".
- Isaiah 26:14: "They shall NOT rise".
- Psalm 49:20: "Man that is in honour and UNDERSTANDETH NOT is like the beasts that perish."
- Acts 24:25: "...Judgement to come, Felix trembled."
- There is also to be a NATIONAL
   RESURRECTION OF ISRAEL as foretold in Ezekiel 37 and Hosea 13:14.

#### The New Heavens

- Verse 3.
- Malachi 4:2: "The sun of righteousness shall arise with healing in his beams."
- The stars are the work of God's fingers, as will be the glorified saints, both Jew and Gentile.
- They turn many to righteousness (Jude 3 and James 5:20).

#### Daniel 12

- Verse 4: "Knowledge shall increase and many shall run to and fro."
- Verse 5: Two angels either side of the Tigris: they figuratively guide the saints in their pilgrimage.
- Verse 6: "How long?" the cry of all true saints down the ages.

### The answer to "How long?"

- Given by the man clothed in linen (10:5) who is the man of the one Spirit – Jesus and the saints

   on whose behalf all these things happen.
- He confirmed, by raising his hands to heaven, that there would be a time, times, and an half, before the power to scatter the holy people
   (Jews and the Saints) would be finished.
- One "time" is a divine year of 360 days, which before the Flood was the length of a year.

## The answer to " How long?"

- $3\frac{1}{2}$  years (times) =  $3\frac{1}{2}$  x 360 days = 1260 days
- On the day/year principle, this is 1260 years.
- Rome is the subject of the judgements of this extended vision of Daniel's.
- Papacy came to be acknowledged by the "Decree of the Emperor Phocas"
   A.D.607–610.

### The answer to "How long?"

- 610 + 1260 years = A.D.1870, when the Pope no longer ruled the Papal States, and finally ceased to persecute the Saints.
- The Mosque of Omar, the Moslem abomination standing in the Holy Place, was started in A.D.638.
- 638 + 1260 years = A.D.1898 when Zionist Jews urged the re-settlement of Palestine because of persecution and pogroms.
- In A.D. 688 the Mosque of Omar was completed.
- 688 + 1260 years = A.D.1948 when the State of Israel was reborn, a place where Jews could have a home and security.

#### Daniel does not understand

- The words were to be sealed until the time of the end.
- More details were revealed by Jesus in the Book of Revelation.
- Many would be purified and made white, and tried (1 Peter 1:22: the trial of our faith).
- The wise would understand (Matt.24:15).

### The 1290 and 1335 days

- "From the time that the daily sacrifice shall be taken away [A.D.70] and the abomination that maketh desolate set up [A.D.608]", the Papacy has oppressed both natural and spiritual Israel.
- Several significant terminal points can be identified.

#### Fulfilments of the 1290 days

- End of temporal power of the Papacy in 1870 +
   30 years = 1900 Zionist Congress in London.
- A.D.533: Decree of Emperor Justinian that the Roman Bishop was the Head of the Church – add 1290 = A.D.1823 when Greeks obtained independence from Ottoman rule.
- A.D. 627: Jerusalem taken by Arabs add 1290
   = 1917 when the city was freed from the Turks.

## The 1335 days

- No clear starting point given.
- But it terminates with a blessing the resurrection and the setting up of the kingdom?
- Daniel would "rest" in the grave.
- "But stand [resurrection means "to stand again"] in his lot". This is his inheritance or portion in Israel. Revelation 20:6 says "Blessed is he that hath PART in the first resurrection".

#### Daniel "the man greatly beloved"

- He was faithful.
- Constant.
- Prayerful.
- Supportive of his friends.
- Had a reputation for doing his work well.
- A student of prophecy and the signs of his times.
- MAY WE BE LIKE HIM AND STAND WITH HIM IN THE DAY OF BLESSING!