Tomorrow In Prophecy

mingle themselves with the seed of men: but they shall not cleave one to another, even as iron is not mixed with clay!" Chapter 2: 41-43. Observe also the expression, "They shall mingle themselves with the seed of men." That which could not be accomplished by force of arms was attempted by diplomacy, leagues, treaties, and intermarriage. For centuries the reigning houses of Europe were closely related by the ties of family and wedlock. So many of the sons, daughters, grandsons, and granddaughters of Christian I of Denmark became crowned heads in the European capitals that he was known as "the grandfather of Europe"; and for similar reasons Queen Victoria of England might have been considered the grandmother of Europe.

Yet international hatreds and war were not averted. Not the "mailed fist," the shrewd diplomat, or the adroit matchmaker have availed to cement again the shattered fragments of empire; nor will a totalitarian blitzkrieg be any more successful. And down the centuries Inspiration has declared, "They shall not cleave one to another"; and "the Scripture cannot be broken!"

Coming World Rulership. And what of the future? We face the climax of Daniel's prophecy and the climax of earthly history.

"In the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever. Forasmuch as thou saw that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it brake in. pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold. The great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure." Verses 44, 45.

Through the centuries we trace the vivid panorama of world events. Gilded Babylon, ruthless Medo-Persia, intellectual Greece, and iron Rome each arose, fulfilled its destiny according to the divine blueprint, then crumbled to ruins. As told in verse:

"First the Assyrian kingdom ruled the world, Then Medo-Persia's banners were unfurled; And after Greece held universal sway, Rome seized the scepter where are we today?

"Down in the feet of iron and of clay, Weak and divided, soon to pass away; What will the next great, glorious drama be? Christ and His coming, and eternity."

"The dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure." The stone cut from "the mountain without hands" is about to roll across the face of the earth, and terminate the mad scramble of warring nations. Then will be realized the hope of the ages and the establishment of Christ's kingdom in which love, peace, security, health, and happiness will reign evermore.

2. Great Empires of Prophecy

IN the modern magazine and newspaper world, cartoons play an important part. "Uncle Sam," "John Bull," the swastika, the rising sun, and countless other national insignia are conspicuous in symbolic art. Ancient peoples delighted in their national emblems and tribal hieroglyphics. Likewise the God of heaven caricatured the nations in a moving picture of world history in advance.

"I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea. And four great beasts came up from the sea, diverse one from another." Daniel 7:2,3.

In Bible prophecy, "winds" frequently denote war and strife (Jeremiah 25:31-33); the "sea," or "waters," represent nations and peoples (Revelation 17:15); while the four animals which arose from the sea are declared in this prophecy to symbolize four kings, or kingdoms, "which shall arise out of the earth." Daniel 7:17,24. Careful study reveals that the four nations prefigured by the great image of Nebuchadnezzar's dream, are again introduced. Additional features are emphasized. To the mind of a pagan monarch, towering kingdoms may appear as dazzling objects of worship; to the God of heaven they are as ravenous, bloodthirsty beasts of prey.

The Babylonian Lion. "The first was like a lion, and had eagle's wings: I beheld till the wings thereof were plucked, and it was lifted up from the earth, and made stand upon the feet as a man, and a man's heart was given to it." Verse 4. The lion, known as the "king of beasts," was a fitting emblem of "Babylon, the glory of kingdoms." Isaiah 13: 19. Modern excavations amid the ruins of that ancient city