

## It Might Be Today

## **THE 10**

We like every week to bring what we call a Prophecy Update. We show how news and trends in the world are corroborating centuries-old prophecies found in the Bible.

Students of Bible prophecy see a last days coalition of ten nations arising out of the old Roman Empire. The antichrist will rise to power from these ten nations.

(You can read the prophecies in Daniel 7:42 & 9:41-43, and in The Revelation of Jesus Christ 13:1-2).

For a long time we looked at the European Union (EU) as the fulfillment of this prophecy. I can remember watching in the 1970's as the EU hovered at nine nations. Then there were ten... *But then there were a whole lot more!* Today there are 27 sovereign member states.

So were we wrong? Maybe not! There is also something within the EU called the Western European Union. It has a fixed, permanent membership of exactly 10 nations.

So are they the 10 spoken of in the Bible? If so, we have a problem, because those member states decided to terminate their association on June 30, 2011. One article I read stated, "on 30 June 2011 the WEU was officially declared defunct."

Or were they? *Not exactly!* Because the very next day, on July 1 2011, the EU formally invested certain administrative powers and duties to a new group of ten nations.

Those powers, those duties, are not on the surface very menacing. Nevertheless there *is* a new coalition. By its own choice and in its own official document, that group is (quote) "hereinafter to be known as The Ten."<sup>1</sup>

The Ten nations are Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and the United Kingdom.

Are **these** the 10 nations Daniel and John saw in their respective prophecies - the ones that would arise from the old Roman Empire in the last days to be ruled by the antichrist?

*I don't know!* No one knows. But isn't it interesting that the Bible predicted the rise of united European nations as a world superpower over two thousand years ago? And doesn't it fascinate you that there have been and still are *exactly* 10 specially designated EU nations?

I remind you that although we follow the fulfillment of Bible prophecy, we are not waiting for any prophecy to be fulfilled. Jesus promised to return to resurrect and rapture the church as an imminent event. By that we mean the certainty that He may come at any moment and the fact that no prophesied event stands between the believer and that hour.

Are you rapture-ready? If not, get ready, stay ready, and keep looking up. *Ready or not, Jesus is coming!* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>http://www.weu.int/documents/Decision\_WEU\_en.pdf</u>