

Greetings brethren,

I hope that everyone had a pleasant Sabbath.

There is a current world event that I want to bring to your attention. I believe the event, that I will soon describe, is a watershed moment in history. A watershed moment is an important occurrence that happens in time.

Last week on Sunday, February 27, 2022, I sent out an email to everyone regarding the crisis in the world that has arisen between Russia and Ukraine. What I was not aware of when that email was sent is that a special session of the Bundestag, the German lower house of parliament, had convened on that day to talk about the crisis in Ukraine.

This special session lasted about 1 hour. The new German Chancellor Mr. Olaf Scholz, and the leader of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) political party Mr. Friedrich Merz, and Germany's Foreign Minister Annalena Baerbock, addressed the parliament regarding, not only the Russian Ukrainian crisis, but the crisis that they believe Europe is now under. All three speeches were rousing speeches.

But before I go on to describe what was said, I am going to ask everyone to take some time and listen to these speeches in their entirety. These speeches are still available, and can be heard on YouTube.com with an English translation. The video is titled "Live: German Chancellor Olaf Scholz on Ukraine | DW News".

Mr. Olaf Scholz began by describing Germany in a "historic turning point" due to the Ukrainian invasion by the Russians. I will let the following excerpts from this speech describe the new outlook that the German people now have regarding European security:

"Germany is at the end of the post WWII era, nearly 70 years later."

"We are seeing Germany throw overboard a long standing prohibition of weapons to a conflict zone."

"There is a tremendous rethinking among the German population, that yes, it is time, it is the right thing to do now, to mobilize and build up the German military."

"In the past, Germans have been in terrible conflict when it comes to getting involved in wars."

"There has been deeply ingrained pacifism in Germany."

"Germany plans on sending weapons to Ukraine, anti-tank missiles, surface to air missiles ..."

"February 24, 2022 marked a change in the history of our continent. In attacking Ukraine, the Russian President Putin launched a war of aggression to stop the freedom of Ukraine, and put it under its yolk."

“Invasion goes against international law.”

“The world, after the attack, is not the same as the world before it.”

“We need to draw a line in the sand and contain this.”

“This requires strength on our part.”

“Yes, we want to defend freedom, democracy and our prosperity.”

“In attacking Ukraine, Putin is destroying the European security structure that we have had for nearly half a century.”

“Permanent security in Europe is not possible with Russia there.”

“In attacking Ukraine, Putin has created a new reality. Yesterday, it was decided that Germany will deliver weapons to Ukraine so it can defend itself. There was no other response possible to Putin’s aggression.”

“With the attack in Kyiv, we find ourselves in a new age.”

“What needs to be done to keep the peace will be done, and Germany will do its bit. The German armed forces need new strong capabilities.”

“We need to invest considerably more in the security of our country in order to defend our liberty and our democracy in this world.”

“This is a major challenge in this country. It needs to have a modern progressive armed forces that can protect us. We need aircraft, we need ships, we need soldiers who are well equipped for their missions and this can be done for a country as big as we are, as important as we are in Europe. And for this, we will set up a special fund for the German armed forces... The 2022 German budget will have 100 billion Euros earmarked for this.”

“From now on year for year, more than 2% of our GDP will be invested in defense.”

“We are doing this for ourselves, for our own security.”

“And we will need to keep up technologically as well, which is why it is important to me that the fighter planes and tanks that are being developed need to be developed with our European partners

particularly with France to build them here in Europe. These projects are now top priority for us. The procurement from the armed drones from Israel is something we are working on as well.”

“And for nuclear participation we will need a modern replacement for the obsolete Tornado Jets. The Euro fighter is going to have electronic warfare capacity. “

“Ladies and gentlemen, the change that Putin has undertaken doesn’t just affect our country, it affected Europe as a whole, and this means there are opportunities and challenges. The challenge is to sustainably strengthen the serenity of the European Union. The opportunity is that we can join forces in a way that we have shown that we are able to do.”

“We want peace in Europe. We will always push for a peaceful solution in conflicts and we will work until there is peace in Europe once again.”

Address to the Bundestag, German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, February 27, 2022

The final excerpt brings to mind I Thessalonians 5:1-4, “But of the times and the seasons, brethren, ye have no need that I write unto you. For yourselves know perfectly that the day of the Lord so cometh as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape. But ye, brethren, are not in darkness, that that day should overtake you as a thief.”

The quotes you just read all came from the German Chancellor, Mr. Olaf Scholz. The speech that followed was given by Mr. Friedrich Merz and it was even more rousing and more powerful. These men are the leaders of the two largest ruling political parties in Germany. And they are in lockstep with each other, in perfect agreement, with what they believe Germany now has to accomplish.

The 100 billion Euros that have been earmarked this year for the new German military will put them 3rd in the world in military spending per year, well ahead of what Russia currently spends on military. And as it was mentioned, at least 2% of the GDP is budgeted for military spending each year thereafter. This will amount to spending at least 80 Billion Euros each year for military purposes. That is not to mention the amount of funds the other European countries may allocate in building up their own defenses as well.

The leaders of the nations of this world are seeking ways to find peace and to defend their own countries from foreign aggression. And it is quite sad to watch the end result, especially as it is occurring in Ukraine. But as you heard in this week’s sermon by Mr. Armstrong, this world does not have the source of knowledge that leads to peace:

“This world doesn't know right from wrong and this world is in deep trouble. This world is in an almost unbelievable paradox as I've said time and time again. Here we are in a world, in some areas of the world, of awesome progress, awesome accomplishment. And I've said things like for example television, the motion picture, the electric light, sending men to the moon and back, close up photographs right from the surface of Mars, things that they can do, but all of that progress at the same time accompanied by appalling evils. “

Bible Study, “Human Behavior”, Herbert W Armstrong, January 15, 1982

The outline of bible prophecy has been set. It was revealed to Mr. Armstrong by God that the Assyrians, who are the modern day Germans, would rise to power one final time and would fulfill a role as one of the last 10 kings of the final revival of the Holy Roman Empire. It is now important to connect the world events that take place with the prophetic truths that God's people once understood. The following are quotes from Mr. Armstrong about these 10 kings:

"The next words tell HOW God is now about to plead: '... he will give them that are wicked to the sword, saith the Eternal.... Behold, EVIL shall go forth from nation to nation, and a great whirlwind shall be raised up from the coasts of the earth' (Jer, 25:31-32).

"God will use a Nazi-Facist Europe to punish Britain- America. Then He will use the Communist hordes to wipe out the Roman Europe."

Book, *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, Herbert W Armstrong, 1980

"This particular 'lady' of this prophecy is pictured as a lewd harlot and 'a lady of kingdoms.' That is, a great CHURCH ruling over nations. This same modern "female" Babylon is pictured also in the 17th chapter of Revelation—there called a 'great whore,' sitting on or ruling over 'many waters,' which are interpreted in verse 15 as 'peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues.'"

"Her KINGDOMS over which she ruled were called 'The Holy Roman Empire' of A.D. 554 to 1814, briefly revived by Mussolini and SOON to have a last and final 'resurrection' by a political-military union of ten nations in Europe (Rev. 17:8-14)."

Book, *The United States and Britain in Prophecy*, Herbert W Armstrong, 1980

"The prophecies of Revelation 13 and 17 and Daniel 2 and 7 show definitely that such a reunited Europe is coming—AND SOON! That of Daniel 2:33 shows half of this united Europe will consist of Eastern European nations, and half of Western. They comprise the toes and feet of Nebuchadnezzar's great dream image, to be destroyed by Christ's coming again to earth in supreme supernatural power and glory to rule all nations and bring us world peace!

"This reunification of Europe is in the sure word of prophecy. But the union will not cleave together, even as the iron and clay of Daniel 2:33 could not cleave together. But when it does come into fulfillment, very soon now, it will quickly be replaced by a REAL world peace that shall last for the next thousand years. And that will be for the happiness and good of all nations, the Russians, all other Europeans, the Americas and all Africans and Asians.

"Europeans are saying that 40 years is long enough to be divided. This 40th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations may trigger events to bring on the world's last colossal world violence and trouble, and usher in at last, after 6,000 years of human trial and error and woes and sufferings, a UNITED ONE WORLD, AND WORLD PEACE AT LAST—a world truly to be built by the LORD Eternal."

Plain Truth Magazine, "40th Anniversary Conference of Drafting UN Charter", Herbert W Armstrong, October 1985

I am sorry to bring you such sobering news, but it is our duty as Christians to watch the current world events that are taking place around us. We don't want these watershed moments in time to catch us by surprise, as it has been prophesied to catch some by surprise in Matthew 25:6 "While the bridegroom tarried, they

slumbered and slept.”

The developments in Europe make me sad, especially when I watch the news and see the death, destruction, and the humanitarian disaster that is unfolding. It makes me want to reach out and provide help in some form or other. But this would not be a lasting solution. Please pray for each other and pray that God’s kingdom will come to end such tragedies.

Finally, we should also be striving to do everything we can, especially as the Days of Unleavened Bread approach, so that we can qualify to be in God’s kingdom, when, as Mr. Armstrong stated, “the world will truly be built by the LORD Eternal.” A time of peace is on the horizon, and this is the most wonderful news in a time of bad news that we can all look forward to.

Take care and stay safe.

In Christ’s service,

Luis Garcia

P.S. A French PDF translation of this email is attached to this email.