BRITAIN, THE VATICAN AND ISRAEL
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This past week the Queen of Great Britain met Pope Francis for the first time at the Vatican, presenting the famously plain-living pontiff with a hamper of British food including honey, cox's apple juice and 12 eggs from the crown estate. Wearing lilac instead of the black that is usually considered de rigueur when meeting the pope, the Queen was received not in the apostolic palace but in a small papal studio. She appeared relaxed and at ease with the 77-year-old pontiff, arriving with the Duke of Edinburgh for the brief meeting, which lasted under 20 minutes.

It was the Queen's first foreign trip since she went to Australia in 2011, and the first meeting between the supreme governor of the Church of England and the head of the Roman Catholic church since 2010 when the then pope Benedict XVI made a state visit to Britain.

The Queen did not attend Francis's inauguration last March, instead sending the Duke of Gloucester to represent her. But she has a long history of papal meetings, having made her first visit to the Vatican as Princess Elizabeth in 1951 where she was received by Pius XII, and she has presided over an unprecedented thaw in relations between the UK and Holy See.

During her reign, the Queen has been received by a pope three previous times at the Vatican: by John XXIII in 1961, and by John Paul II in 1980 and again in 2000. The first encounter with the Polish pope marked the first time a British monarch had made a state visit to the Vatican, a landmark gesture reciprocated two years later when the pontiff made a pastoral visit to the UK.

The Queen's meeting with Francis, therefore, was her seventh with a leader of the world's 1.2 billion Roman Catholics.

Nigel Baker, Britain's ambassador to the Holy See, described the visit as a "reaffirmation" of the ties between the Holy See and the UK, noting that it was taking place in the centenary year of the formal re-establishment of diplomatic relations between the two.

However, the visit was not without its potential tensions. Rebecca Rist, a papal expert at the University of Reading, said: "Thursday's meeting comes at a time when, on the surface, relations between the Catholic church and the Church of England are at an all-time high."

In this week's edition of the Global Watch Weekly we take a look at the historic legacy which has defined the relationship between Great Britain and Europe and how this has also had a significant influence over the direction of the nation of Israel.

Hope you enjoy.

Rema Marketing Team.
Today Britain is not the nation that it was, and no longer "rules the waves" - or much of her former empire either for that matter. To think that modern Britain would stand up to protect the Jews, or interest itself in behalf of Israel might be thought unrealistic. However but when the crisis of World War II came upon them, the British Foreign Secretary, Ernest Bevin, was adamantly opposed to the idea. The three decades between 1917 and 1947 witnessed a complete change in Britain 's attitude towards the Jews. Even the horrific Holocaust was not enough to gain British sympathy! So what happened?

From Balfour to Bevin, Barbara Tuchman in her book Bible and Sword makes the following comment about Lord Balfour who issued the Declaration that bears his name:

"In Balfour the motive was Biblical rather than imperial. If the Biblical culture of England can be said to have any meaning in England 's redemption of Palestine from the rule of Islam, it may be epitomized in Balfour... Long before he ever heard of Zionism Balfour, steeped in the Bible from childhood, had felt a particular interest in the 'people of the Book '. According to his niece, companion, and biographer, Mrs. Dugdale, it was a 'life long' interest that 'originated in the Old Testament training of his mother and in his Scottish upbringing.'"

It was the influence of the Bible upon British statesmen that caused them to "view with favour" the idea of a national home for Jews in Palestine. In order to oppose Balfour's Declaration and the planned British Mandate, the influence of the Bible upon those in high places would have to be neutralized - and the party that had an interest in doing so was the Roman Catholic Church.

Opposition to the idea of a Jewish State therefore originated with the Vatican (and not with the Arabs, as is so often assumed). The overwhelming evidence for this has been presented in a book by Sergio I. Minerbi entitled: The Vatican and Zionism: Conflict in the Holy Land 1895-1925. Chapter 6 in this book is titled "The Struggle to Block Approval of the Mandate," and in chapter 8 we read this:

"On May 3, 1917 Weizmann received a letter from Felix Pinkus, one of the leaders of the Zionist Federation in Switzerland, who spoke of a great danger looming on the horizon. The Vatican, he said, was organizing all the Catholics in the world against a Jewish Palestine under British protection. A meeting on the subject was recently held in Chur, Switzerland, attended by the bishop of Chur, high-ranking Italians and Austrians, Reichstag member Matias Erzberger, and the Jesuit general. It was decided at that meeting to organize the Catholics in all countries, and especially in the United States, to bring about the internationalization of Palestine under the protection of the pope and to oppose British protection for Palestine by all means."
And again:

"The British government and the Zionist Executive began to work with redoubled vigor to overcome the obstacles to approval. Opposite them stood the Catholic Church, which was applying pressure on the British directly and was working indirectly by mobilizing Catholic powers for the Vatican position and encouraging them to worsen their relations with the Mandate government in Palestine. There were rumors to the effect that the Vatican was even supporting Arab ferment against the Jews and British rule."

Although Balfour's Declaration was incorporated into the resulting Palestine Mandate, we can see in retrospect that the Vatican's opposition to it was never abandoned. The Vatican's unrelenting hostility to a Zionist State in the Holy Land was explained by the late Avro Manhattan in his 1982 book *The Vatican Moscow Washington Alliance*. He wrote:

"Briefly, in Vatican thinking, the stronger Israel became, the stronger would be the ambitions of world Zionism. And vice-versa. Apart from the geographical presence of a Jewish state in the Middle East, the most controversial characteristic of an Israeli establishment, with Jerusalem as a territorial and mystical centre, or hub, was its messianic nature, the central focus of the Hebrew theological (purposed) dream. "Because of this, the Vatican could not and would not tolerate the establishment of an Israel which claimed messianic privileges, or rather, messianic uniqueness and which, therefore, would compete with the Roman Catholic Church as the centre of a future spiritual kingdom ...."

*The Papal Conquest* was the title of a book by Alexander Robertson published in 1909 in order to expose the Vatican's campaign against Protestant Britain and the attempt to gain control of the country as shown in the above illustration from that book. Today this is being accomplished through Europe.

"Although deliberately muted in public pronouncements, behind the Zionist banner there was to be found the ancient messianic hope for the coming of a global theocracy, as predicted by all the seers and prophets of Zion ..."

"The spectre of the creation of such a theocracy has haunted the inner chambers of the Catholic Church from her earliest inception, and is still a dominant fear. Hence her equivocal role in world affairs surrounding the birth and existence of the State of Israel...

In Vatican eyes, therefore, the millennial yearning for a global Hebrew theocracy represents a deadly threat to the eschatological teachings of the Catholic Church. When translated into concrete political terms, such a view spells not only rivalry, but implacable enmity."

A Jewish State in the Holy Land, protected by a powerful Protestant Britain had to be opposed with might and main. It obviously became necessary to fight the battle on two fronts: first there would have to be a determined and accelerated attack on Bible-based Protestantism. In short Britain would have to be destroyed and if Hitler could not accomplish that, then some other way would have to be found to render the Island Race ideologically impotent. So that it became both unwilling as well as unable to protect the national home of the Jews. The result was seen in Ernest Bevin. With Protestant Britain immobilized, Arab and other Powers could be stirred up to destroy Israel.
POWER STRUGGLE

The Roman Catholic Church has been contending with the English nation ever since the time of Henry VIII. But having celebrated 400 years of the King James Version of the Bible, and having reminded us all of the long history and influence that it has had upon British life, it is astonishing to witness the decline in both religion and morality that is apparent in the country today. How is it that there has been such a remarkable change in the national character over the last 60 years or so?

It is not difficult to perceive a link—a cause and an effect—in the development of Britain which has involved the influence of the Bible. As Barham Tuchman correctly observed:

"With the translation of the Bible into English and its adoption as the highest authority for an autonomous English Church, the history, traditions, and moral law of the Hebrew nation became part of the English culture; became for a period of three-centuries the most powerful single influence on that culture …"

"Wherever the Reformation took hold the Bible replaced the Pope as the final spiritual authority."

As this was certainly the case, we are justified in pointing out the fact that the popes had no love for the English Bible. History attests to the several attempts that were made to prevent its translation, its publication, and then its distribution throughout Britain's Protestant empire and beyond. Just to highlight a few instances; It is common knowledge that the Roman clergy had the English Bible burnt in Tyndale's time and during the period of the Reformation.

But later than that, in 1898 the Pope condemned Bible Societies (such as the British and Foreign Bible Society). In December 1907 Bibles and Testaments were collected by priests and burned at Santa Cruz in the Madeira Islands—and later again in Austria. As recently as 1957 stocks of Bibles belonging to the British Society in Madrid, Spain were confiscated and burnt. This was accompanied by a relentless campaign to discredit the Bible and have it neutralized as much as possible in Britain itself.

GREAT BRITAIN

The Book that was once known as "the secret of England's greatness" (the English Bible and especially the King James Version) was taken out of schools and subjected to slanderous criticism. Meanwhile new versions appeared with overwhelming regularity launching a new fashion every few years. For some years you proved that you were in vogue by quoting the NEB (in case we forget, that was the New English Bible). Then you had to change to the NIV, then to the New King James Version (that was for the reactionaries) - and then the ESB and so on. As has been said, "if the purpose of all this was to revive Christianity and its church, and make it more part of the modern world, then it has not succeeded."

Meanwhile morality and the value of family life has become almost meaningless. The sickening emphasis constantly given in the media to sexual indulgence, sexual crime and Sodomy has produced a society that is depraved, ugly and perverted. Britain today is a country that is filled with violence and wickedness. Her honour as well as her greatness is history; and the dreadful thing is that very few even care.

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As this descent has happened and Britain's power took a nose-dive, post-war governments sought salvation by joining the European Common Market - which became the European Economic Community - which became the European Union. So questions were pondered by some people - having lost its empire, would Britain lose its sovereignty also? Would the once Great Britain disintegrate and the United Kingdom become dis-united, breaking off Ireland, then Scotland, and then Wales?

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The words of John Redwood, MP were:

"The United Kingdom is being destroyed from within and without" (The Death of Britain, 1999).

There are solid reasons for saying that this destruction of Great Britain has come about precisely because she has turned her back on the Bible. To quote the words of Jeremiah 8:9,

"The wise men are ashamed, they are dismayed and taken: lo, they have rejected the word of the LORD; and what wisdom is in them?"

Prospects look pretty glum for Britain according to some forecasts. An article in Britain's Mail read: "Our country has been changed completely." The context was that of immigration which a 2011 census has revealed as having taken place on a massive scale. The paper comments:

"The mass immigration that has been taking place in Britain over the past decade has dramatically changed the cultural make-up of this country. If immigration occurs gradually as it did in Britain on and off for centuries - then immigrant communities feel the need to integrate. Over time they become essential, indeed defining, parts of the life of the country. But immigration on the scale revealed in the new census is a recipe not for integration, but fracture. It spells the end of our unified national way of life."

The suggestion was made by the paper that there had been a politically motivated attempt to radically change the country. Britain is a small country that is already overcrowded, yet in recent decades - and especially under Tony Blair (who we now must recognize as a camouflaged Catholic) waves of immigrants have landed on the shores and at airports.

The Mail reported that:

"Since the 2001 census the number of people in Britain identifying themselves as Christian has dropped 13 percentage points, from 72 to 59 per cent. The number of Christians in Wales and England dropped by more than four million, with the number of Christians overall falling from 37 million to 33 million.

"But while Christianity has suffered this collapse, nearly all other religions, and Islam in particular, have experienced a vast growth spurt, largely as a result of mass immigration. "Over the decade since the last census, the number of Muslims has nearly doubled, going from 1.5 million in 2001 to 2.7 million."

Who needs to be concerned about a Protestant Britain protecting the Jews, or interesting itself on behalf of Israel?
THE PAPAL CONQUEST

It is not difficult to understand why Roman Catholics in England would do all in their power to bring about a change in the Protestant ruled kingdom of the 16th century.

The Church of England was governed by the 39 Articles established by the Royal Warrant of 1562 which contained "the true doctrine of the Church of England agreeable to God's word." These "Articles of Religion" contained many statements which were clearly designed to suppress the Roman Catholic religion. For example:

"The Romish Doctrine concerning Purgatory, Pardons, Worshipping and Adoration, as well of Images as of Relics, and also invocation of Saints, is a fond thing vainly in vented, and grounded upon no warranty of Scripture, but rather repugnant to the Word of God ... "It is a thing plainly repugnant to the Word of God , and the custom of the Primitive Church, to have public Prayer in the Church, or to minister Sacraments in a tongue not understood of the people ... the sacrifices of Masses, in which it was commonly said , that the Priest did offer Christ for the quick and the dead, to have remission of pain or guilt, were blasphemous fables, and dangerous deceits."Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, are not commanded by God's Law, either to vow the estate of single life, or to abstain from marriage: therefore it is lawful for them, as for all other Christian men, to marry at their own discretion, as they shall judge the same to serve to godliness ..."The Bishop of Rome hath no jurisdiction in this Realm of England."

The generous spirit and sense of "fair play" among the British people could not maintain the suppression of its Roman Catholic minority indefinitely, consequently the Toleration Acts of 1778 and 1791 were passed allowing freedom of worship and education. As the Emancipation bill passed through the houses of Commons and Lords in 1829, many voices warned the nation against the consequences for both Government and Crown.

Articles and books were written expressing deep concerns at that time. It was felt that the Roman Catholic objective was not merely toleration, but controlling power to convert England to Catholicism and, eventually, to destroy the Protestant throne.

Nonetheless, the Emancipation bill passed and 21 years later, in 1850, a Roman Catholic hierarchy was restored in Britain under the archbishop of Westminster at Westminster Cathedral.

The following extract from the book The Papal Conquest by Alexander Robertson (pub. 1909) explains some of the concerns felt:

"The promoters of former Roman Catholic Disabilities (Removal) Bills, such as those of 1792, when there was removed from the Statute-Book the Jaw forbidding Roman Catholics to vote; of 1829, when there was removed that which forbade them sitting in Parliament; and 1846, when there was removed that which forbade the entrance of papal bulls into the kingdom, all solemnly swore that each concession would be the last to be sought, that each and all were to be "final settlements"; and that the Roman Catholic Church would for ever afterwards avoid political matters, and in each case (as we have already seen in that of 1829) the oaths and promises were deliberately broken .
Cardinal Newman, replying to Mr. Gladstone's (who was four times Prime Minister of Britain) complaint "that the English and Irish penal laws against Roman Catholics were repealed on the faith of assurances, which have not been fulfilled," said: "No pledge from Catholics was of any value to which Rome was not a party." Mr. Gladstone exclaimed: 'Statesmen of the future recollect the words, and recollect from whom they came...'."

"Another, earlier writer expressed it in these words: "Alas! Britain... with mistaken generosity and compassion, she has folded a viper in her bosom, which, it is to be feared, may yet prove her destruction" (Popery in its Social Aspect by R.P. Blakeney)."

The Roman Catholic Cardinal Manning (1808-1892) in addressing Roman Catholic workers and establishments told them:

"It is good to be here in England. It is yours, right reverend fathers, to subjugate and subdue, to bend and to break the will of an Imperial race. You have a good commission to fulfil and great is the prize for which you strive. England is the head of Protestantism, the centre of its movements, the stronghold of its powers. Weakened in England, it is paralysed everywhere; conquered in England, it is conquered throughout the world. Once overthrown here, it is but a war of detail. All the roads of the world meet in one point, and this point reached, the whole world is open to the Church's will" (Sermons on Ecclesiastical Subjects, Vol.I, pp, 166-7).

The fact is that the British throne was established on an anti-Roman basis. It is discriminatory—but the question is why? Was it justified? The true answer to this is only possible when we have a knowledge of the history involved, and where there is an understanding of the Biblical principles which identify the great false church that was foretold:

What is the great Ecclesiastical system that deceives all nations, and in which is found the blood of prophets and saints (Rev. 18:23-24)?

Who and what is "the great whore" which corrupts the earth with her fornication (Rev. 19:2)?

Answer, Rome!

The answers to these questions (and many similar ones) lead us to only one conclusion, but it is a conclusion that the deceived do not want to face up to. In a post-Protestant Britain the population is unaware that spiritual devastation has come from an enemy with a smiling face and a warm hand-shake! Yet this is what has happened during a little over a century.

That Britain has been deceived and corrupted does not alter her destiny as outlined in the prophetic Scriptures. Today she has lost her empire and has aligned herself with Catholic Europe. However the historical struggle with Rome continues to impact Britain's inclusion in the coming United States of Europe.

Britain's growing rift with Europe is reported upon almost daily. Newspaper headlines clearly show that the issue is becoming a major one that will affect the next General Election.

"Britons' Hostility to EU 'at its deepest ' says William Hague," declared the Daily Telegraph.

The Mail reported "UK Independence Party support hits all-time high of 15% as anti-EU sentiment among votes increases."

The Economist had a front cover declaring "Goodbye Europe" and asks "What would happen if Britain left the EU ."

The obvious answer to that question is that she would have to find different customers and different partners. Thus, the Mail had the headline: "Hague to launch world wide network of commonwealth embassies to tackle 'Superpower' EU" (September 22, 2012).
The article reported:

"William Hague will tomorrow launch a world wide network of British Commonwealth embassies to rival the emergence of the EU as a foreign superpower. The Foreign Secretary is in Canada where he will sign an agreement to open joint UK Canadian diplomatic missions abroad. "He also hopes Australia and New Zealand will join the initiative whereby the four countries will pool their resources to extend their combined influence on world affairs. The move by Eurosceptic Mr Hague is seen as a counter to the EU 's fast-expanding European External Action Service, which is setting up offices in the US and other major countries. It is seen by some UK diplomats as a direct threat to Britain's standing as a major world power. Now Mr Hague is hitting back with plans to increase the number of British embassies by teaming up with the three Commonwealth allies. In remote nations where Canada but not Britain has an embassy, or vice versa, they will share the embassy. Similar arrangements are expected to include Australia and New Zealand. "Mr Hague said: 'As David Cameron said when addressing the Canadian parliament last year, 'We are two nations, but under one Queen and united by one set of values.' "'We have stood shoulder to shoulder from the great wars of the last century to fighting terrorists in Afghanistan ... We are first cousins. So it is natural that we look to link up our embassies with Canada's in places where that suits both countries. It will give us a bigger reach abroad for our businesses and people for less cost.'

As 2014-2015 comes it will be interesting to see how the United Kingdom looks in the wake of the Scottish referendum on independence and also the UK’s position in the European Union becoming the number 1 major debate for the next UK General Election as already seen in recent debates between Nigel Farage (leader of the UK Independence Party) and Nick Clegg (deputy Prime Minister).

However one thing we know for sure is that the European Union super state is a fulfilment of a dream in which the religious and political power of Europe will again become a dominant player in regards to seeking to control and influence the destiny of Jerusalem and the nation of Israel.

For more detail on the growing influence of a Catholic Europe on the world stage see

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