

Chapter 18

Descent into Hell

We left the Islamic Army punching across the neck of Italy and conducting probing raids into coastal Spain and possibly Portugal in what we termed Phase 1.

This chapter continues Phase 1 as the Islamic juggernaut attempts to engulf all that is left of Europe. It appears that so far, the Madhi has purposely attacked countries with poor economic performance. These countries would have little money to spend on defense, and the military is likely made up of outdated and obsolete equipment. Greece comes to mind in the light of recent news events, as do many of the former Soviet bloc countries such as Romania, Georgia, and Poland.

That strategy changes now. The Madhi is about to slam into Germany, the economic powerhouse of Europe. This calls for something different, but the same...



*He will transfer into great Germany
Brabant and Flanders, Ghent, Bruges and Boulogne:
The truce feigned, the great Duke of Armenia
Will assail Vienna and Cologne.*

Let's look at the third line first. "The truce feigned", where have we seen that before?

During the invasion of Greece the Madhi enacted a truce after detonating a nuclear or biological weapon. That truce lasted only long enough to disperse the contamination.

It appears that Germany is ready for him, so a truce is drawn up, Germany will support this because it buys them time to get reinforcements and supplies. The Madhi (the Duke of Armenia again!) does not really care as he has the manpower to simply overwhelm any force, no matter how well equipped. There is no 'force-multiplier' on Earth that can make an equal fight between the two armies.

Then again, the truce may not be with Germany at all, maybe it is with Italy at the moment, or it even refer to the previous truce concerning Greece.

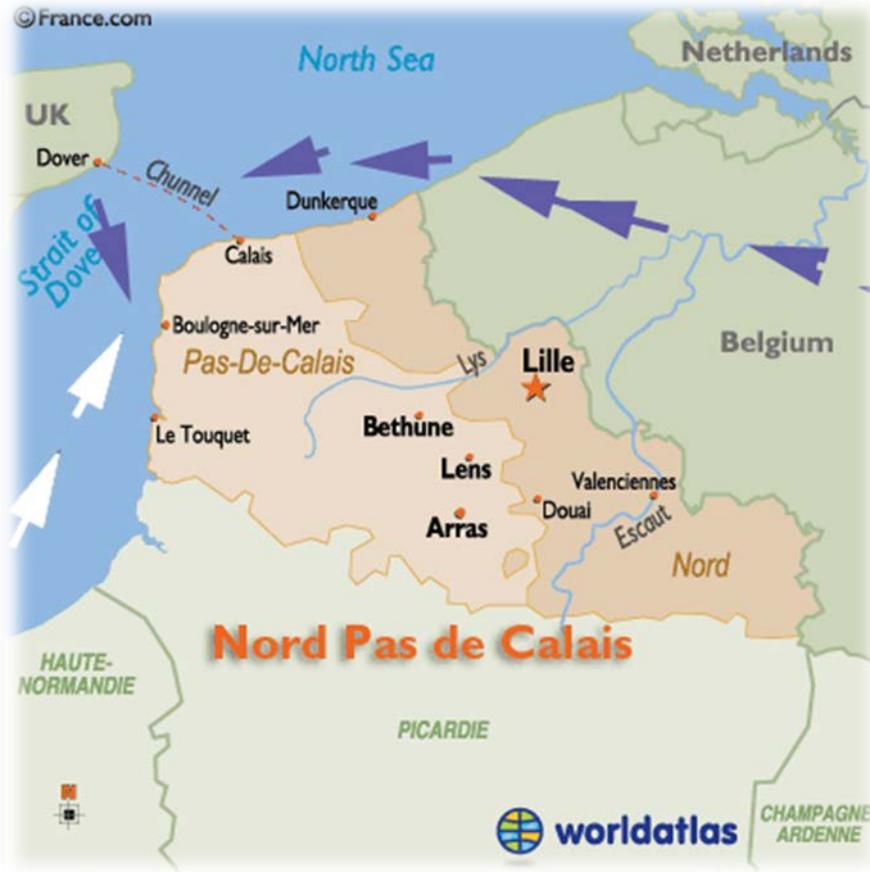
Line one clearly indicates that at some time in the immediate future, he will be moving into Germany.

Flanders sits just above Belgium and below the Netherlands. Ghent is in the same area, Bruges is in Belgium and Boulogne is in France, near Calais where the Chunnel enters France from Britain.

Vienna is Austria near the border of Hungary, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic. Cologne is inside Germany near the Brussels border.

While the Madhi does not punch straight into Germany, he gets around it through Brussels into Belgium and sets about decimating that immediate area, working his way in from the border to Cologne. He may utilize his 'fast boat' navy as it appears in this and the following quatrains the cities attacked (and his new command post), are on the Rhine and other rivers.

Other than Boulogne, all the remaining cities are in areas around Germany on both the east and the west.



Boulogne is a bit of an outlier. It is a coastal city in France, so possibly the Madhi, or more likely the White Turban, sends some ships up along the Atlantic coast for raids. The proximity to the Chunnel is another factor, and maybe there is an attempt by the Islamic Army to seize control of the tunnel for later access into Britain, or maybe just to prevent supplies and military equipment arriving from Britain.

The Madhi could approach through Belgium and the Netherlands, which fell in the previous quatrain, He could then launch a naval raid on Boulogne, bypassing Calais, which would most likely be the most heavily guarded and defended port in France at this time.

The White Turban could launch a naval attack by skirting the French coast after a launch from occupied Spain.



Century 3 Quatrain 53

53

*When the greatest one will carry off the prize
 Of Nureng, of Augsburg, and those of Bale (Basel)
 Through Cologne the chief Frankfort retaken
 They will cross through Flanders right into Gaul.*

Here the “greatest one” must again be the Madhi, as he was just called the “great Duke” in the previous quatrain. Here also we have attacks on cities inside Germany proper. Line three indicates that cities will be taken and retaken during the battle, but in the end, the Madhi cuts through Flanders and “right into Gaul” (France).

Note again, the newly mentioned cities are port cities on major rivers, Frankfort on the Main river, and Basel on the Rhine.

Century 5 Quatrain 43

43

*The great ruin of the holy things is not far off,
Provence, Naples, Sicily, Sees and Pons:
In Germany, at the Rhine and Cologne,
Vexed to death by all those of Mainz.*

The focus now shifts to the Italian campaign which is simultaneous with the German occupation. A hint about the new command post shows up in line four, it has now been transferred to Mainz, Germany.

Provence is the area in Southern France from Marseille to Monaco, Naples is below Rome on the southwest coast of Italy, Sicily is off the toe of Italy's boot, Pons is the area on the West coast of France, running from the Gironde estuary north to just above La Rochelle.

Other than Pons, most of these areas are fronts on the Italian lines, including the Provence area, which adjoins Italy at the top. This attack is fairly straightforward, a naval attack across the Med into Sicily, then up the west coast of Italy. This would be the White Turban division here, we know the Black Turban division cut across at Ravenna and pushed south, although he could split his forces and send half west into Provence.

Pons is probably a coastal raid by the White Turban, launching from bases in Spain.



Line one seems to be saying that when these conditions appear, a “great ruin” of holy things is about to occur.

What could this “great ruin” be? Given the ongoing campaign in Italy, it must be the destruction of Rome, and more specifically, the Vatican.

Century 2 Quatrain 30

30
*One who the infernal gods of Hannibal
Will cause to be reborn, terror of mankind
Never more horror nor worse of days
In the past than will come to the Romans through Babel.*

This quatrain says that “Hannibal” will “be reborn”.

Hannibal was a Carthaginian military leader, famous for crossing the Alps with his elephants. His surprise attack on Rome was completely unexpected due to its brashness. Apparently an Islamic military leader with these qualities will pull off an equally brash maneuver attacking Rome again. The reference to “Babel” in the last line is a double meaning, symbolizing “languages” and the Persian origins of the attackers. This “Hannibal” may be the “Black Turban” we saw appearing earlier who launched the attack across the Adriatic on Ravenna. If so, this person is also the “monster” appearing in Ravenna.

Century 2 Quatrain 81

81
*Through fire from the sky the city almost burned:
The Urn threatens Deucalion again:
Sardinia vexed by the Punic foist,
After Libra will leave her Phaethon.*

While “fire from the sky” could be a natural event, here it appears to be a missile attack. No clue is given as to which city is being attacked here either. The only message in this quatrain is that Sardinia is “vexed” by the “Punic foist”. The Punic wars were between Rome and Carthage, where Hannibal led his armies. The use of the word “Punic” is to tell us that like then, this war will be occurring between Italy and “Carthage”, which would be a fleet of North African origin. All of the North African countries are now aligned with the Madhi, so this is an Islamic fleet.

A foist is a small fast boat. As we have seen, the Iranian fleets will be composed of thousands and thousands of very small, fast attack boats.

There are some astronomical signs thrown in here as well. The “Urn” represents Aquarius, the “water bearer”, so if meant as a dating system, this would be late January. The “Flood of Deucalion” is a Greek legend comparable to Noah, possibly meaning an unusual water event at this time.

An alternate meaning could be that the mention of “Deucalion” conjures up visions of a worldwide flood, the ‘flood’ being an innumerable amount of troops, (see below.)

Century 1 Quatrain 11

11

*The motion of senses, heart, feet and hands
will be in agreement between Naples, Lyon and Sicily.
Swords fire, **floods**, then the noble Romans drowned,
killed or dead because of a weak brain.*

The last line of 2:81 is similar to the second. It is possibly an astronomical timestamp, Libra being the constellation of the Scales, ‘Phaeton’ from the legend of Phaeton driving his [fathers] chariot (which pulled the Sun too close to the Earth and set it afire). Zeus, as you remember, ended that nonsense with a thunderbolt to Phaeton.

If one reviews the Phaeton story, as we will here, we will find there are many, many metaphors and symbols hidden in it that I am sure Nostradamus had in mind.

“ PHAETHON was a young son of [Helios](#) and Klymene who begged his father to let him drive the chariot of the sun. The Sun-god reluctantly conceded to the boy's wishes and handed him the reigns. However, the inexperienced Phaethon quickly lost control of the immortal steeds, and the sun-chariot veered out of control setting the earth aflame, scorching the plains of Africa to desert. [Zeus](#) was appalled by the destruction and struck the boy from the chariot with a thunderbolt, hurling his flaming body into the waters of the river...” [5]

“The Earth bursts into flame, the highest parts first, and splits into deep cracks, and its moisture is all dried up. The meadows are burned to white ashes, the trees are consumed, green leaves and all, and the ripe grain furnishes fuel for its own destruction...great cities perish with their walls, and the vast conflagration reduces whole nations to ashes...the woods are ablaze with the mountains..Aetna is blazing boundlessly.. and twin peaked Parnassus...nor does its chilling clime save Scythia, the Caucasus burns...and the heaven piercing Alps and the cloud capped Apennines...” [2]

“There have been, and will be again, many destructions of mankind arising out of many causes; the greatest have been brought about by the agencies of fire and water, and other lesser ones by innumerable other causes. There is a story that even you [Greeks] have preserved, that once upon a time, Phaethon, the son of Helios, having yoked the steeds in his father's chariot, because he was not able to drive them in the path of his father, burnt up all that was upon the earth, and was himself destroyed by a thunderbolt. Now this has the form of a myth, but really signifies a declination of the bodies moving in the heavens around the earth, and a great conflagration of things upon the earth, which recurs after long intervals.” [6]

Here are some key elements:

- The reckless young man who endangered the world.
- The world on fire from the actions of the young man.
- The reckless young man claims to be descendant of the Sun (The Mahdi will claim to be Allah’s chosen one).

- Libra representing America and leaving her ‘chaotic and wild ride’ [which had] endangered the world.
- The reckless young man will be ‘neutralized’ by a ‘thunderbolt’, implying a quick (and permanent) ending to the disaster, administered by Zeus, the king of the gods.

Phaeton also has a meaning of an “open carriage” or “open automobile”.

So Libra (America) could be “getting out of her car” at this point, or as we say today, “stop the ride, I am getting off”, or in another sense, “getting serious” about doing something.

And yet more meanings, like Libra meaning “Justice”, so we have “Justice” getting “out of the car”. In this case we do not know whether that “Justice” is America or the Islamic Army meting out “Sharia Justice” on Europe.

Even a possible veiled reference to President Kennedy here as well, who was in an open car (a phaeton) when hit from above by a “thunderbolt”, after driving the world to the edge of nuclear holocaust.

Century 1 Quatrain 9

9
*From the Orient will come the African heart
 to trouble Hadrie and the heirs of Romulus.
 Accompanied by the Libyan fleet
 the temples of Malta and nearby islands shall be deserted.*

Here we have a summary of the Italian campaign. The one who “comes from the Orient”, and has an “African heart” is the Mahdi. The “African Heart” could also refer to the “White Turban”, who will be the conqueror of North Africa, but since these two are co-rulers, Nostradamus sees them as one and the same here. Additional support comes from line three, he will be accompanied by the “Libyan fleet”. Since this fleet originates in North Africa, the White Turban is involved.

Two targets are given in line two. “Hadrie” is Henry Vth, who is not King Henry yet, but a commander of the French and allied militaries. This is an indirect reference to France itself.

The “heirs of Romulus” are the Italians. Rome was purported to be founded by Romulus and Remus about 747 BC. ^[1] Rome is named after Romulus, who killed his brother Remus of a land dispute.

Line four briefly describes the destruction of the areas south of Italy. There are thirteen megalithic temples set aside as World Heritage sites on Malta, some going back to 5000 BC. These islands are where the boat refugees are being processed now by the UNHCR Refugee Agency ^[3] as they escape Africa on the way into Europe.

Malta has a population of 445,000 people as of 2014. As of the date of this invasion, zero.

8:84

*Paterno will hear the cry from Sicily,
all the preparations in the Gulf of Trieste;
it will be heard as far as Sicily
flee oh, flee, so may sails, the dreaded pestilence !*

There is a town of Paterno on Sicily, but given the context this would not make any sense. There is a Paterno in the province of Potenza, south of Naples, and this would be more sensible.

Being a southern Italian city, Paterno will be impacted by the invasion of Sicily rather quickly, and fleeing refugees would be streaming through it. The “preparations” in the Gulf of Trieste could be an allied fleet being made ready to resist the attack, or they could be an Islamic fleet, since earlier we read that the “Black Turban” had attacked through Ravenna, this would leave the Gulf of Trieste in Islamic control.

The last line contains the only remedy possible, immediate flight, although if the attack across the neck of Italy has occurred, virtually all of Italy will be cut off and surrounded. The “sails” are interesting. Other translations say “so many sails”, which appears to be correct, but as we have seen, they are not sailing craft, but a kind of hydroplane attack boat. Even so, the fins and wings on the attack craft do look remarkably like sails, and there is always the implied “wind” component in the word “sails”, which again supports the wings of the fast attack boats, as well as the fact they appear to be able to fly.

Here the invading hordes are called a “pestilence”, and a dreaded one at that. This calls up images of locust swarms which is doubtless what he intended.

Century 9 Quatrain 28

28

*The Allied fleet from the port of Marseilles,
In Venice harbor to march against Hungary.
To leave from the gulf and the bay of Illyria,
Devastation in Sicily, for the Ligurians, cannon shot.*



Marseilles is a port city in southeastern France, near Monaco. Venice is an Italian port at the top of the Adriatic Sea near Slovenia. Some commentators believe the “Allied Fleet” departs Marseilles for Venice, but as can be seen, one would have to sail around Italy and into the “hot zone” between Italy’s east shore and Croatia. I think what we are reading is a news commentary on the state of preparations on both sides. While an Allied Fleet is leaving Marseilles, another is assembling at Venice to begin an overland march to the currently contested Hungary. Since we have already covered Hungary’s collapse, it appears this quatrain takes place before the major assaults on Sicily and Italy’s west coast. The “Bay of Illyria” is opposite the heel of the Italian Boot, near present day Tirana. An assault force leaves here, but it seems they must be the Islamic Army, as the next line describes the battle zones which include Sicily and “Liguria”, which was Italy proper.

“Cannon shot” is the “gift” that the invaders provide Italy.

Century 7 Quatrain 6

6

*Naples, Palerma and all of Sicily
will be uninhabited through Barbarian hands.
Corsica, Salerno and the island of Sardinia,
hunger, plague, war the end of extended evils.*

Here we continue with the Italian campaign, Naples and Palerma as well as Salerno are all on the Italian mainland very near Sicily. These areas will be made “uninhabited” through fleeing refugees or

executions. Corsica and Sardinia are islands above Sicily, so it appears that this is a naval operation commanded by the White Turban, attempting to link up with the Black Turban who is pushing across the Adriatic into Ravenna.

Nostradamus uses “Barbarian” in many places to describe the Islamic State in these quatrains.

Century 10 Quatrain 60

60

*I weep for Nice, Monaco, Pisa, Genoa,
Savona, Siena, Capua, Modena, Malta:
For the above blood and sword for a New Year's gift,
Fire, the earth will tremble, water an unhappy reluctance.*

Here we return to the “gift” theme we saw in 9:28. In addition to “cannon shot” we now have “blood and sword” and “fire”, along with an earthquake and a shortage of water. All the places mentioned are in upper Italy near France , (Nice is in France, Monaco is a city state between France and Italy)and Malta is an island State just south of Sicily. Here we see two campaigns extending the reach, the probable White Turban navy seems to be island hopping from Sicily to Sardinia to Corsica then on to Monaco and the French mainland. The Black Turbans east Italian coast attack carries through to Siena, Modena and Pisa. At this point, the upper part of Italy is completely in Islamic hands, all the islands around Italy are occupied, and many of the lower portions are also destroyed, cut off at Naples.

Only Rome and central Italy remain unconquered at this time, but are most likely filled with hungry refugees from both upper and lower Italy. The Pope must be thinking seriously about relocation now, but escape by land or sea is no longer possible. Even air travel may be too risky due to the abundance of surface to air missiles that will surround Rome. ^[4]

There is a timeframe given with this quatrain, general as it is, as the attacks appear to cluster around New Years. The “trembling earth” could be a metaphor for the marching armies or the fear generated in Italy, it does not require an earthquake in the literal sense. The reference to a shortage of water is most likely due to the burden of a large influx of refugees in the remaining “safe” areas around Rome. Rome could not get enough water even in the early days, hence the gigantic aqueduct and viaduct building programs in its heyday.

Century 3 Quatrain 43

43

*People from around the Tarn, Lot and Garonne
Beware of passing the Apennine mountains:
Your tomb near Rome and Ancona,
The black frizzled beard will have a trophy set up.*



The sudden shift to France here seems out of place, but it is not really France we are talking about here, but French troops rushing to the aid of besieged Rome. Nostradamus warns them that the last chance they have to turn back will be the “Apennine mountains”, which run north to south along the center of Italy, from the Alps in the north to the tip of the peninsula.

The “Tarn, Lot and Garonne” are rivers in southern France, just west of Nice and Marseille, so this French army is originating from the areas just beyond those that were attacked by the White Turban a few quatrains ago. Apparently they must have to detour around the upper part of Italy, crossing the Apennines at the northern end, and then following the mountains south to Ancona, then on to Rome. There is a rail line from Ancona to Rome, so this may be the intended destination.

The last line indicates that this is a doomed expedition, and “black frizzled beard” will set up a “trophy”. Trophies goes to winners, and this will be no different. Genghis Khan would make a pyramid of heads when he overran a city, and this is similar to what is implied here. “Black frizzled beard” is almost certainly the White Turban, as he is also known as “Black bristle beard”.

Century 4 Quatrain 68

68

*The two greatest ones of Asia and of Africa,
From the Rhine and Lower Danube they will be said to have come,
Cries, tears at Malta and the Ligurian side.*

This Quatrain appears to be incomplete, but it is still quite clear. The “two greatest ones” are certainly the Madhi, known as the Blue Turban, and the Muslim-warrior-Jesus, known as the White Turban, as can be seen by the reference to where they originated, “Asia” and “Africa”.

The second line can be understood this way, since both will be said to have come from the Rhine and Lower Danube when we know they came from “Asia” and “Africa”, so there must be another meaning here. Who came from the “Rhine and Lower Danube” (hint the lower Danube was called the ‘Hister’)? This was the origin of the “second” antichrist we know as Hitler. I believe that the point Nostradamus is making here, is that these two will be perceived as “antichrists”. The dogma of Christian religion often makes it seem as if there is only one “antichrist”, but the writings in the Book of Daniel and the Book of the Revelation both refer to “the Beast” and the “False Prophet”. There is an excellent case to be made that the “Beast” may actually be the White Turban (the reincarnated warrior-Jesus) and the “False Prophet” is the Madhi, as he will claim to be the twelfth Imam, the representative of the prophet Mohammed. This is the opposite of what we have previously put forward in this book, but I think the case can go either way, and we probably will not know for sure until we see it happen.

The last line just reiterates the disaster to come to Italy and Malta.

In other sources, the first line (missing here) states

Century 2 Quatrain 4

4
*From Monaco to near Sicily
The entire coast will remain desolated:
There will remain there no suburb, city or town
Not pillaged and robbed by the Barbarians.*

Largely a repeat of what he has already told us, that the entire west coast of Italy will be emptied of all humans. The use of the word “suburbs” is interesting, considering this was written in the mid 1500’s.

So, a recap is in order now, as we digest what we have been shown. Keep in mind, other fronts are also active at the same time as this one. At this point Germany is still fighting, although it is losing ground fast. Some of Italy is holding out, mostly around Rome, and it appears that extreme northern Italy near the Alps has not been seriously affected yet. There have been some raids into coastal France along this area as well, but most of France is unaffected at this time. Spain is also experiencing coastal raids along the Mediterranean coast.

This chapter has been largely about the assault on Italy.

The White Turban has sailed up along the west coast of Italy, and has been island hopping while raiding and pillaging the coastal cities. He has ended up in Monaco and started to spread out east and west. It would be logical that he would begin a large scale troop buildup in this area at this time.

The Black Turban has jumped off at Pula in Croatia, crossed the Adriatic and landed in Ravenna, then working inland to Florence and Siena, cutting off the northern escape route for most of Italy.

The Blue Turban has pushed in from above, taking Hungary, Austria, Germany, and is working into Switzerland. It appears they will all try to link up in the Switzerland area for the bulk of the troops, but because of the sheer numbers he has, they will be stretched out along all the fronts, which would be the northern and eastern borders of France, and the southern coasts of France and Spain.

The only Allied troops functioning at this time would be the Spanish, French, and the English armies.

All cities in Italy are destroyed with the exception of Rome, and the cities within 100 miles of it.

All the offshore islands are destroyed, this includes Malta, Sicily, Sardinia, and Corsica, as well as innumerable smaller islands.

In France, Monaco, Nice and Marseille have been attacked, although it is unclear if they have been destroyed.

Germany, Belgium, and the Netherlands have been overrun by the Blue Turban troops. The Blue Turban has set up a new command post at Mainz, Germany. This will be the center of operations for the final phase of the assault. From here on in, the various branches of the Islamic Army will be all fighting together in much closer quarters. The various commanders continue to lead troops against different targets, but their individual nature is now lost in the combined forces.

FOOTNOTES

[1] Immanuel Velikovsky , “Worlds in Collision” , pp 143-144

[2] Ibid, citing Ovid, “Metamorphoses” (translated by F.J. Miller), Book II

[3] <http://www.unhcr.org/mt/charts/>

[4] <http://www.newsmax.com/Newsfront/surface-air-missing-missiles/2013/08/12/id/520026/>

[5] <http://www.theoi.com/Titan/Phaethon.html>

[6] Translation by [Benjamin Jowett](#) (1817-1893) reproduced in, for example, [John Michael Greer, Atlantis \(Llewelyn Worldwide 2007 ISBN 978-0-73870978-9\), p. 9](#)

