



THE NINETEENTH CENTURY brought tremendous changes not only in man's science and technology, particularly in the West, but in beliefs. By the end of the eighteenth century the Enlightenment began to give way to a new era of Romanticism, an intellectual movement that started in Germany around 1770 and impacted art and literature. Although the effects of the Enlightenment remained, producing greater accomplishments in science and industry, Romanticism's ideas found fertile ground among those dissatisfied with the pragmatism of science and technology. Reacting against the Industrial Revolution, artists and literary figures appealed to the emotions, particularly as they could be turned against the social and political norms of the aristocratic era.

Romanticism's effect on theology was especially significant, reflecting the influence of anti-Christ. Led by German theologians such as Friedrich Schleiermacher and Albrecht Ritschl, Christianity in particular took on a radical departure from the reasoned faith of the true believer in Jesus.

Friedrich Schleiermacher (November 21, 1768 - February 12, 1834) was a German theologian, philosopher and biblical scholar influential in the development of Higher Criticism which formed the basis for liberal theology—a method of hermeneutics that rejects tenets of biblical truth having to do with God's intervention in His creation. Because of his great influence on Christian thought, he is called the "Father of Modern Liberal Theology."

Albrecht Ritschl, (March 25, 1822 - March 20, 1889), another German theologian, rejected the doctrines of original sin, the miraculous birth of Christ, the Trinity, and the Incarnation. He was heavily influenced by Immanuel Kant, and attempted to apply the tenets of Kantian philosophy to Protestant Christianity. It is said that this was typical of an era that had little feeling for the mystery of religion and no dread of a divine judgment.

Both of these men's influence on Protestant theology has been enormous, and is felt even to this day as Higher Criticism

has permeated even elements of evangelical Christianity with subjective, feelings-oriented religion.

Anti-Christ knows full well that the vast majority of people act more on emotion than on reason—particularly on a reasoned faith. The subjectivity of religious thinking has opened the doors for Satan to incorporate the dialectic process to challenge the absolute truths of God's Word. Pitting subjective religious lies against the absolutes of Scripture, he influences men to "dialogue" with those whose beliefs are in opposition to those absolutes, seeking to reach synthesis—a "meeting of the minds" that seems to bring at least an "agreement to disagree" while hindering any effective proclamation of the truth. This is why today we have evangelical Christian leaders dialoging with Roman Catholic theologians, Mormon leaders and even Muslim imams to reach a harmonized agreement not to convert anyone, but merely to embrace the similarities between the religions. Thus, they can pray together, even though it is to different false gods.

Amid the changing philosophical landscape, nations continued on the path to warfare, each century becoming bloodier than the previous one. Warfare between Christian states accelerated, as did conflict between the Muslim Ottoman Empire and Western and Eastern Europe. In 1800, the Acts of Union annexed Ireland into the British Empire, creating the Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland. The Union with Ireland Act 1800 was enacted by the Parliament of Great Britain on July 2, 1800, and was followed by the Act of Union (Ireland) 1800, passed by the Parliament of Ireland on August 1, 1800, resulting in the Union coming into effect on January 1, 1801. These Acts have bound the two countries together for better and for worse, and much bloodshed has resulted as militant elements in Catholic Northern Ireland have struggled for independence from Protestant England from the early part of the 20th century till today.

1804 saw the uprising of Serbs against the rule of the Ottomans, which brought about the modern state of Serbia.

The revolt was prompted by the massacre of many Serbian noblemen by the Dahias, a Janissary junta that ruled Serbia at the time. The Janissaries—an elite military force of Christians conscripted from a young age into service for the Ottoman Empire—executed the nobles out of fear that the Serbs would support a rival sultan who opposed their increasing power in his province. The Serb revolt was among the first stirrings against the Ottoman Empire that found success.

Eventually, the Ottoman Empire would succumb to greater challenges by Western powers, as we'll see in our next installment.

Anti-Christ's power over the slave trade suffered greatly when slavery was abolished in the West, beginning with the British Empire. The earliest accounts of anti-slavery efforts trace to around 1783 when the Quaker movement petitioned the British Parliament to end the slave trade. The Society for the Abolition of the Slave Trade was established in London in May, 1787, which produced literature and art to bring to the general populace a greater awareness of the evil. In 1805, a Bill calling for the abolition of the slave trade in British territories passed both Houses of Parliament. By 1807, some 40 parliamentary seats were held by anti-slave-trade proponents led by William Wilberforce. But slavery continued to flourish in other countries, most notably the United States of America.

Anti-Christ has no problem goading Christian nations to war against one another. As the implements of warfare grew increasingly sophisticated, large naval arsenals became the staple of nations determined to control the seas in the interest of commerce. From 1803 to 1806, the War of the Third Coalition resulted in France under Napoleon defeating an alliance comprised of Austria, Russia, and some allied nations.

During that war, Britain was also under constant threat from France. On October 21, 1805, the Royal Navy engaged a combined naval force of France and Spain at the Battle of Trafalgar. Under the command of Admiral Lord Horatio Nelson, 27 British ships decisively defeated 33 French and Spanish ships led by French Admiral Pierre-Charles Villeneuve. Although Nelson was mortally wounded in the battle, the victory gave Britain absolute mastery over the seas. This allowed Britain to greatly expand her influence throughout the world. This led to yet another opportunity for anti-Christ to create warfare between Christian nations as Britain attempted to restrict U.S. trade, resulting in the War of 1812.

The United States suffered several defeats as it struggled against a combined force of British, Canadian and American Indian forces. In August, 1814, Washington, D.C. was captured, and the nation's capital was burned. Yet American forces successfully resisted British invasions of New York, Baltimore and New Orleans. The United States was able to survive what it called its "Second War of Independence."

Desirous of maintaining that independence, and in response to continued European attempts to colonize land and influence states in North and South America, the United States adopted the Monroe Doctrine in 1823. The Doctrine deemed such interference on the part of European nations toward any state in the Americas acts of aggression which would be met with military intervention.

The Doctrine was first proposed by President James Monroe during his seventh annual State of the Union Address to Congress. It remains one of the longest-standing tenets of U.S. foreign policy.

The U.S. Government's expansionist goals led to more bloodshed under the presidency of James K. Polk who believed in the doctrine of America's "Manifest Destiny." Manifest Destiny posited that the United States was destined by God to spread the virtues of the American people and their institutions westward to encompass the entire continent. Although Manifest Destiny never gained universal support either among the American people or politicians, its ultimate goal was realized piecemeal.

The origin of its first theme, "the virtue of the American people and their institutions" can be traced to America's puritan heritage and John Winthrop's sermon titled, "City upon a Hill," in which he proposed that America would be a shining example to the Old World.

Regardless of the virtues or failings of the United States of America, it cannot be denied that God has used it in such a way that Manifest Destiny would seem to be His plan. Even so, anti-Christ has found ways throughout history to thwart the good intentions of men, and create evil in their place.

The Mexican-American War (1846-1848) was one evil consequence of Manifest Destiny. After Texas gained independence from Mexico in 1836, the United States initially declined to incorporate it into the union, largely because northern political interests did not want to add a new slave state. Hoping to retake Texas, the Mexican government was at the time conducting border raids and threatening war should the United States annex Mexico. With the election of Polk in 1844, his belief in Manifest Destiny drove him to campaign for the annexation of Texas, with further designs to bring the Oregon Territory, California, New Mexico, and the entire southwestern portion of the continent into the Union.

At first, Polk offered to buy the lands from Mexico, but when his offer was rejected he instigated a fight by moving U.S. troops into a disputed zone between the Rio Grande and Nueces River—an area recognized by both the U.S. and Mexico as part of the Mexican state of Coahuila. This prompted an attack by Mexican cavalry against a contingency of U.S. troops under the command of General Zachary Taylor on April 25, 1846. The attack spurred Polk to petition Congress to declare war against Mexico, which it did on May 13 of the same year. The Mexican forces were no match against the superior armed strength of the U.S. army, and Mexico surrendered under the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. This established the Rio Grande as the U.S.-Mexican border, and Mexico recognized the U.S. annexation of Texas. Mexico also agreed to sell California and the territory that would become the states of New Mexico and Arizona as well as the rest of its territory north of the Rio Grande for \$15 million plus the assumption of certain damages claims.

Again, anti-Christ had fomented warfare between "Christian" nations—the largely Protestant United States, and Roman Catholic Mexico, under the pretense that it was God's will for the spread of a "New Earth" in the regions of the North American continent.

We recognize that God indeed is the one who establishes all power on earth. But as believers in Jesus Christ, we must not embroil ourselves in the conflicts fomented by anti-Christ, whom God uses to bring about His plans.

In spite of Polk's ambitious plans to bring about a "New Earth" on the North American continent, anti-Christ was stirring up conflict among the inhabitants of the nation. With the election of the first Republican president, Abraham Lincoln, and amid fears that he would push for the abolition of slavery in the United States (he stated in his campaign that "Government cannot endure permanently half slave, half free"), several southern states seceded from the Union. South Carolina was the first to secede, on December 20, 1860. Within two months, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana and Texas followed. On February 9, 1861, the secessionist states formed The Confederate States of America with Jefferson Davies as president.

After Lincoln was sworn into office (March 4, 1861), he kept the U.S. garrison stationed at Fort Sumter in Charleston, South Carolina. Although several U.S. forts had been attacked prior, the U.S. government did not at first initiate retaliation. But when the Confederates under General Pierre Beauregard opened fire on Fort Sumter on April 12, 1861, the War of Secession (commonly misnamed "the Civil War"), began. This war remains the most devastating ever fought on U.S. soil, and its casualties of dead and wounded Americans—both military and civilian—are still unmatched by those of all military conflicts in the nation's history (including World Wars I and II) combined (750,000 - 698,500). In numbers of American military deaths, the American Civil War ranks second only to World War II. But consider that the population of the United States (including the Confederate states) at the beginning of the Civil War was merely 31,443,000 compared to 133,402,000 at the beginning of World War II.

Truly, the American Civil War was anti-Christ's greatest achievement in union with the angel of death against any "Christian" nation.

And his onslaught continued throughout the 19th century with constant warfare in "Christian" Europe: 1864 - Prussia and Austria invaded Denmark; 1866 - Austro-Prussian War began; 1870 - Franco-Prussian War started; 1898 - Spanish-American War.

Anti-Christ has many fronts on which he fights his battles. One of his greatest goals is to discredit faith in Jesus Christ and erect barriers to those who might otherwise be won to true faith. The fomenting of atrocities by alleged Christians against heathens has been one of his most effective means to achieve that purpose. The manner in which the government of this "Christian" nation acted against aboriginal people has caused many to reject "the white man's God." Broken treaties that promised land and benefits to American Indians have been a blot on the record of American domestic policy. The Indian Removal Act of 1830, enacted into law by President Andrew Jackson, was supposed to grant unsettled lands west of the Mississippi River to Indians in exchange for their lands within existing state borders. Although the move west by Indian tribes was deemed "voluntary," in fact they were forced from their lands under

pressure by European settlers placed on Congress and the president. During the removal, some 4,000 Cherokee died on a forced march, which came to be known as the "Trail of Tears."

Major tribes such as the Cherokee, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Creek and Seminole were most affected, although the Seminole resisted. This resulted in the Second Seminole War of 1835, during which Chief Osceola was taken prisoner while under a flag of truce.

During the campaigns conducted by the U.S. Government against the Indian nations, atrocities were committed on both sides. Scalping, decapitation, the killing of innocent women and children were part and parcel of both. In the end, though, it is always faith in Jesus that suffers because so many who go by His name fall victim to their own avarice.

In 1837, Queen Victoria assumed the British throne, and would have the longest reign of any British monarch in history, from June 20, 1837, until her death on January 22, 1901. Victoria was known for her strict moral standards, and for her desire to reign over the kingdom's foreign territories with benevolence, employing military action only when necessary to maintain control. She felt that others might not be as benevolent were the Crown to cede control to any others.

In 1886, France, an ally of the United Colonies during the Revolutionary War, presented the United States with the Statue of Liberty. A revered icon of American independence, pride and resolve to remain a free and independent state (that's all gone), the Statue of Liberty, made in the style of ancient Greek and Roman art, was actually inspired by the Roman goddess *Libertas* (Latin for "Liberty"). The U.S. National Parks Service states that the Roman robe on the Statue of Liberty is the main feature that invokes *Libertas* and the symbol of Liberty for which she stood. In Roman religion, *Libertas* was the female personification of liberty and personal freedom. Although there is no official statement from the National Parks Service, or reliable historical sources, the spikes on Liberty's head are similar to those depicted on the sun gods Apollo (Roman) and Helios (Greek). The statue's original name was "Liberty Enlightening the World." Hence the torch in her right hand.

Although the United States of America is thought of by many Christians as a "Christian nation," anti-Christ has seen to it that there would be many pagan and occult symbols associated with it, and with many of the states, counties and cities. It should be clear to any born-again believer in Jesus that the nation is as much a part of Satan's world system as any other nation. The difference, by God's grace, is that the influence of His Word has until fairly recently held sway in the hearts of many of its citizens. But that, too, is fast fading as the last days' apostasy continues to gain ground.

Science and technology brought the invention of photography with the first daguerrotype by French artist Louis-Jacques-Mandé Daguerre in 1839. Like all of man's technology, photography would be used for the benefit of men and anti-Christ far more than for the glory of God. Whereas prior to photography, pornography took great pains to produce through art and sculpture, now it would be a matter of pushing a button. History gives ample evidence of the proliferation of obscene images has captured a major segment of the photography business.

Photography led to motion pictures, video tape, and digital video discs, all of which have been used profusely for propaganda and pornography. But the noble use of these inventions have bestowed much pleasure and even work for the Lord.

The 19th-century inventions of the telephone, the phonograph (both by Alexander Graham Bell) and automobiles have had mixed results, some very good, some very bad. Certainly automobiles, even with the many benefits they provide, have contributed to the early deaths of millions of people since their invention.

Phonographs led to tape, to compact discs, and currently to streaming music and other audio content via the Internet. Today's "music" is more of a curse than a benefit, and much of it is obscene. Yet how wonderful it is to listen to good music that glorifies God.

In addition to the telephone, another invention that has helped anti-Christ bring the world closer in his design to recreate Babel on a global scale is the telegraph. Although a crude telegraph system was invented in Bavaria by Samuel Soemmering in 1809, and in 1828 in the U.S. by Harrison Dyar, it is Samuel Morse who is credited with the first truly practical telegraph using an electromagnet. Morse, a professor of arts and design at New York University, demonstrated that electronic signals could be transmitted by wire using pulses of current to deflect an electromagnet which moved a marker to produce written codes on a strip of paper. Thus was invented Morse Code. On May 24, 1844, Samuel Morse officially opened the first completed line of telegraph wires which stretched between Baltimore and Washington, D.C., some 40 miles, with the words, "What hath God wrought?"

In truth, it was man who wrought the invention by unlocking the secrets of nature created by God. Yet, even as anti-Christ takes advantage of man's moral failings to use such inventions for his own purposes, we must acknowledge that none of this could happen except God permit it. His permission serves to prove the prophecies of His Word:

"But you, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book until the time of the end. Many shall run back and forth, and knowledge shall be increased." (Daniel 12:4)

Within 23 years (1867), the first trans-Atlantic cable would be laid, linking Europe and the United States in an even further stretch to achieve the new Babel.

Even as these inventions appealed to the sin nature of mankind, some noble achievements were made in the area of science, particularly in the field of medicine. Louis Pasteur, a French chemist and microbiologist, achieved many successful advances against numerous diseases because of his understanding of germs. The discovery of x-rays in 1895 has also contributed to the cure of diseases, as did Marie Currie's discovery of radium.

In the field of art, realism—the painting and sculpture of natural elements as created by God—gave way to human imagination. Impressionist art began to take on appeal with the works of Monet, Renoir, Pissarro and Sisley, who, in 1873, organized the *Société Anonyme Coopérative des Artistes Peintres Sculpteurs, Graveurs* ("Cooperative and Anonymous Association of Paint-

ers, Sculptors, and Engravers"). Although impressionism maintained a loose connection with realism, the trend away from pure realism that it began eventually led to abstract art, cubism and even "art" painted by animals, which may command obscene prices from spiritually-challenged but wealthy patrons of today's art scene. Anti-Christ hates anything that glorifies God, and desires to twist reality into forms identifiable with devilish influences.

And speaking of devilish influences, a number of people who would become prominent anti-Christ's in their own right were born during the 19th century, most notably, Charles Darwin (1809); Oscar Wilde (1854); Sigmund Freud (1856); Mohandas Gandhi (1869) and Jack the Ripper (?). On July 1, 1804, French novelist Amantine-Lucile-Aurore Dupin was born. Using the pseudonym George Sand, Dupin authored many novels that expressed her feminist, socialist and other unconventional views that appealed to the fallen nature of men and women. A notorious adulteress who preferred men's clothing to that of women, her writings began a revolution in contemporary thinking that have burgeoned over the past century into today's feminist movement, which has wormed its way into a vast majority of churches throughout the world. Anti-Christ's design to blend the genders and confuse the male-female natures created by God has found fertile ground in man's imagination, greatly aided by Dupin.

In a different type of fiction, Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species* was published in 1859, in which his theory of the evolution of man from lower species took the scientific world by storm. This was followed by the publishing of his *Descent of Man* in 1871. It isn't necessary to elaborate on the infamous theory of evolution that has turned even many professed Christians away from the biblical account of the creation of man by God. This theory remains one of the benchmarks of anti-Christ's achievements over the past 6,000 years of man's history.

On the social front, many of today's Christmas traditions began in the 19th century, including the invention of Santa Claus, Christmas trees, Santa's eight reindeer, each with a distinctive name (not including Rudolph). Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* was published in 1843, and has never been out of print.

Although the origins of Valentine's Day remain shrouded in history (sometime in the Middle Ages romantic partners were chosen on "Saint Valentine's" Day because it was believed that birds began mating on that day, it wasn't until the 19th century that the commercialization of that day developed with the tradition of Valentine's Day cards. Popular in Europe, the Valentine's Day card industry began in America with a student at Mount Holyoke College in Massachusetts, Esther A. Howland. Students at Mount Holyoke often secretly exchanged poems scrawled on sheets of paper. After her graduation, Howland received an ornate card from an English business associate of her father, a stationer. Having considerable artistic talent and business acumen, Howland had the idea of producing professional cards and selling them in her father's store. From there, the industry grew in the United States to what it is today.