



## The Burning Bush - Online article archive

### **Some things to be considered regarding the recent decision by the United Kingdom to withdraw from the European Union.**

Rev Ivan Foster

I believe that the outcome of the referendum on the EU came as a surprise to many Christians, even though they had hoped for a vote to withdraw. The outcome was not that which was predicted by most newspaper opinion polls and that was not really surprising, given the campaign that the government, led by Mr Cameron, mounted in company with the Labour leader, Jeremy Corbin and those of that ilk.

The decision has brought a measure of joy to earnest Christians who saw the miseries that links with the EU have brought about. Many of the immoral changes introduced into UK law had their source in the EU. The laws on sodomy, same-sex 'marriages' and abortion were all altered to suit the moral attitudes prevailing within the EU.

However, there are some simple truths which we must not lose sight of in the light of this momentous decision.

#### **1. The prophetic truth regarding the reforming of the old Roman Empire stands firm.**

We read these words in Daniel 2:44: "And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever."

The "kings" referred to are those represented by the ten toes which will be the form that the fourth empire will take at the very end. The fourth empire is universally acknowledged to be the Roman Empire. That Empire will be in existence when the return of the Saviour takes place and He sets up His Kingdom on earth. That event is not to be confused with the first coming of Christ, which some commentators in order to avoid conceding that there will be a Millennial reign on earth, are inclined to do. But it cannot be the first coming of Christ for the simple reason that "the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever." The gospel kingdom was and is not marked by militancy and the Millennial kingdom undoubtedly will be. The gospel has indeed changed the character of nations but it has not "broken in pieces and consumed" nations. However, when Christ returns that will take place.

However the recent decision to leave the EU will not alter God's plan. Many saw the EU as the foundation of the future kingdom of Antichrist and some may see the decision as being a hindrance to the accomplishing of God's purpose.

I read a verse recently, indeed it was the day that the result of the referendum vote was announced. "The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law," Deuteronomy 29:29.

God has not revealed ALL of His plans and purposes in His Word. There are "secret" or "hidden and concealed things" things which are known only to the Lord. None of these secret things is contrary to the revealed will of God, though man oftentimes jumps to conclusions, misreads Providence and foolishly thinks that the events he sees taking place will frustrate and hinder God's revealed purpose.

Such was the thinking of the disciples as they witnessed the terrible crucifixion of the Lord Jesus. Those scenes were, they thought, in total contradiction to God's wonderful purpose. Of course they were very wrong. Calvary was in total fulfilment of God's wonderful plan and not in any way a hindrance to it. As Christ said: "Ought not Christ to have suffered these things, and to enter into his glory?" Luke 24:26.



## The Burning Bush - Online article archive

Nothing that happened on June 23rd will in any way hinder God's eternal purpose. Rather, we have taken a step closer to the fulfilment of prophecy.

I have no doubt that the outcome of the Referendum has carried England a step nearer its involvement in the reformed old Roman Empire.

Changes must take place within the relationships existing between European nations. Germany, Poland and other eastern European nations, presently members of the EU, were never part of the Roman Empire and so will not be part of that future confederation that will give allegiance to AntiChrist.

Let us patiently watch and wait for the wonderful outworking of God's eternal purpose.

### **2. Christians cannot really expect good to come of a campaign which had the moral character of the "Leave" campaign!**

God and His Word received scant regard if any at all during the campaign. In 1973, the campaign in Northern Ireland against going into the "Common Market", as it was then called, very much featured the Word of God and the dangers of such a confederacy.

This was not the case in 2016, even though there was even more reason to protest against the violation of God's Law that emanates from the EU.

Furthermore, the greediness of men's hearts was appealed to by both sides of the debate. The whole issue was about whether we would be better off "IN" or "OUT"!

The choice made by the people had nothing to do with what God had to say, but only on which side men perceived "their bread was buttered on"!

Again, the character of the men who led the "LEAVE" campaign was not that of those who feared God or honoured His laws!

I don't really think I need enlarge upon that point. The reputations of Nigel Farage and Boris Johnson are in the public domain for all to read.

These considerations should moderate our response to the decision of the nation on June 23rd.