

The Priesthood of Monetarism and the Parliamentary System: That governs your life!

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However, under the collapsing Roman Empire, by 330A.D. Emperor Constantine [272-337A.D.], packed up and moved the capital of the empire to the 'new Rome' into the much richer regions of the East, at the mouth of the Black Sea, Constantinople. The Byzantine Empire was thereby established that replaced, but continued that of Rome.

But, back in Rome, a short time later, Julian the Apostate took the reins. He was a short-lived emperor, who ruled from 355A.D. to 360A.D., and was called the Apostate, because he had written a famous treatise "Contra Galileos," an "imprecation [damning curse] against Christianity".

He favoured religious Liberalism, [that everybody can believe whatever they want, except *actual* Christianity] and issued a decree of religious freedom, rebuilt the Pagan temples of Delphi, ended banishment of religious exiles, and resumed persecuting Christians, and it was this method of creating a veritable Heinz 57 varieties of cults, that the Venetian priest Paolo Sarpi would later adopt to unleash religious warfare after the 15th century renaissance, to destroy its legacy. Julian was the patron saint of the English 1688 Glorious Revolution, which the Brits still today claim as the foundation stone of all modern Britain, and then he was Adopted by Lord Shelburne and his British East India company crowd, who put a renewed emphasis on him after Britain's imperial triumph in the 1763 Treaty of Paris at the conclusion of the Seven Years War. [See Figure 39]

However, Julian himself, as has been stated by many a historian was reviving Mithraism. Julian bragged, "Our God is more powerful than the Christian God", and he set up not just one god, but a whole "hierarchy of gods", which, he said, "corresponds to a hierarchy on earth"—the one led by himself, of course. Julian styled himself as the *Emperor of the Emperors and Kings*, reflecting on earth the will of God. He attacked Jesus Christ for being an "anarchist," and creating disorder among the



Figure 39. Julian the Apostate 331-363: Caesar 355-360A.D.

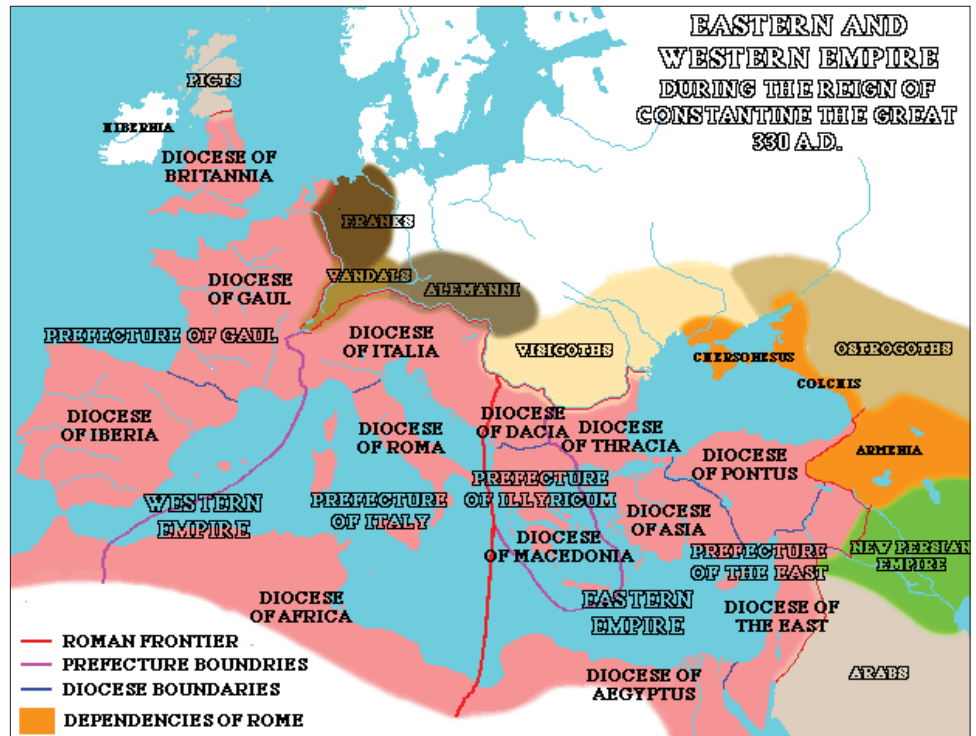


Figure 38. Roman Empire 330 A.D.

lower classes. Julian claimed: "The idea of an incarnation of God is absurd." And that proclamation, of course, is aimed at the idea of imago Dei.

Despite frantic efforts by Julian and his successors the Roman Empire, continued to disintegrate. Between 410A.D. and 455A.D., as civil and religious wars engulfed Rome, the last of the Roman noble families fled north. They gathered what wealth and property they could carry, and sought refuge in the marshy lagoons, of what we today call Venice.

Like all empires, the Byzantines schemed to rule the world. Their big problem, however, was the great Charlemagne. [742-814] Though he bore the title of Holy Roman Emperor, his policies were diametrically opposed to those of the earlier Mithra/Apollo-run



Portrait of Charlemagne, also known as Charles the Great or Charles I.

Roman Empire. In fact, his key advisors were devout Irish Christian priests who had kept actual Christianity alive in Ireland, during the long centuries when the Roman Empire had virtually wiped it out in Europe itself. [See Figure 40]

Charlemagne terrified the Byzantines by defending the general welfare of all. He created a new monetary system on a silver standard to facilitate trade and productions, and constructed great new transportation systems on Europe's rivers, including much of the Rhine-Danube canal—only finally finished in the 20th century—and planned a great canal through France to connect the North Sea with the Mediterranean, challenging Byzantium's maritime-centered empire.

Also, Charlemagne allied himself to the great Caliph of Baghdad, Harun Al Rashid [763-809] the most powerful ruler in the Middle East. The Byzantines built up their outpost in Venice, as a weapon against Charlemagne, which is how Venice really expanded its power originally. Charlemagne knew his enemies very well, both the Byzantine Empire and its outpost in Venice, both of which were trying to destroy his revival of civilization by funding Viking marauders from Scandinavia and through other means. So Charlemagne sent his son Pippin to conquer Venice, which he did, at least until Venice later revolted. Sometimes, as then, the Byzantine oligarchy was in opposition to the Byzantine Emperor—in this case it was Empress—so Charlemagne tried to exploit that division and take over the Byzantine Empire peacefully. First, he himself tried to marry the Byzantine Empress, and, when that fell through,



Figure 40. The Rhine main Danube canal.

he tried to marry his son to her daughter, so as to gain the throne. Both attempts failed unfortunately, were foiled by Byzantine oligarchy.

The next major event in Europe was the unleashing of the Crusades by Venice and the Papacy, which it controlled at the time. Venice intended to use the Crusades to establish a new financial order in western Europe, through the Papacy, which, with the help of the Venetians, was collecting a fortune across Europe for this “holy” purpose. Venice also wanted to finish the project that it had been involved in since around 1000 A.D.; which was the conquest of the rich lands of the Middle East and the Levant, which included the area around the Black Sea, Constantinople, and down through Syria into what is known now as Lebanon, Israel and Palestine., which

were some of the wealthiest areas in the world. And of course that is where the Crusades were going. Even more importantly, this would allow them to seize control of the trade routes which ran on to the extraordinary riches of Persia [modern Iran], India and China. As part of this process of looting Europe and tying it up in religious warfare, the Venetians organized the famous Norman invasion of England in 1066 and the brutal defeat of the Saxons there, which was in reality the first Crusade. The Normans were a bunch of Venetian-run thugs, though sometimes they had fights with them. After 1066, the Venetians sent the Normans on what history books record as the first official Crusade, in 1095. [See Figure 41]

By the end of the Fourth Crusade, [1202-1204] Venice had replaced the Byzantine Empire with her own far-ranging maritime empire—just another typical dynastic shift as we have seen earlier.



Figure 41. First Crusades, 1096-99.



Figure 42. Aerial view of Venice.

This enabled Venice to internationally centralize the control and organization of money. She, Venice dictated that all exchange of silver and gold bullion in the vast territories under her sway, could only occur in Venice itself. At the same time she recruited the Mongol Emperor, the hideous mass murderer Ghengis Khan as her ally to conquer her final frontier, China. The Mongols were nothing more than a fascist policing apparatus for the entire East, and looted China for the Venetians. They had already crushed most of China's food production with stampeding raids across the nation, and then they took China off gold in favour of a silver standard [with the silver to come from Europe via the Venetians], so unimaginable quantities of gold now flowed out of China into Venice. [See Figure 42]

In Venice, exactly as at Delphi, there was an aristocratic priesthood organized around the bank, and no doubt, probably the biggest bank in world history. The Administration around the bank was called "the Procuratia", and its Administrators were called "Procurators". As you look at these pictures of Saint Mark's Square in Venice you will see the two long buildings either side of the Church of Saint Mark and its Byzantine dome. These housed the Procuratia. On the left were the old houses, the *vecchi*, and on the right were the new houses the



Figure 43. Saint Mark's Square showing left the old houses and right new houses.



Figure 44. Basilica of St. Mark and the Dome.

nouvi, since they had to expand with the growth of Venice's imperial financial power. [See Figure 43]

Then you have the symbol of the Serenissima, the serene Republic of Venice, the "Lion of Saint Mark." This is truly Venice's proud acknowledgement of their unbroken, pagan spiritual tradition, back through Rome to Delphi, and the Delphi's mother, Babylon. As an aside, they call this the Church of Saint Mark, which was built in the 9th Century for the bones of Saint Mark, one of Jesus' Apostles. Rumor has it that they were smuggled out of Alexandria by a couple of Venetians in a pork barrel to Venice! So the winged lion of ancient Babylon could never confuse anyone that this was not a place of Christian worship. [See Figures 44 and 45]



Figure 45. Top left. The Ancient winged Lion of Babylon. Top right. Achaemenid or Persian Empire winged lion. Bottom. The 3 winged Lion of Venice with the Doge kneeling before it.

But lo-and-behold who do they have on their front door-steps? Saint George and the Dragon:

This was the Venetian priesthood celebrating - We are the world empire. [See Figure 46, 47 and 48]



Figure 46. "Saint George and the Dragon" by Lorenzo Bregno. It's situated on The Molo which is a ceremonial stone landing, in front of the Doge's palace, with two big columns with the winged lions on them.



Figure 47. "St George & The Dragon" by Vittore Carpaccio, Island of San Giorgio Maggiore [St George Major, an island off the coast of Venice].

Over the centuries as the pool of liquidity [their *Fondi*, which is Italian for "family funds"] grew, the number of Procurators also increased. All were drawn solely from a handful of the most powerful Venetian families, known as the patricians. And, it was usually only from among that the Procurators selected the "Doge", from the Latin "dux", or "duke". As in the Temple of Apollo, the "church" was the bank, and a centre of intelligence and cultural warfare. And everything was organized around this bank, as the Procuratia served as a depository for tax collections of the commune; as a strongbox for private individuals; as the depository for "flight" capital from all over Europe; as the treasury for the massive gifts bestowed on Saint Mark; as the depository of "charitable trusts; as the depository for the inalienable dowries of Venetian female patricians; as a depository for ecclesiastical dues; as probably the



Figure 48. "St George & The Dragon" by Francesco Messina, in Cyprus which is in the Eastern Mediterranean south of Turkey.

leading source of funds for the state debt; and finally, and most crucially, as the fiduciary [trustee] for many of the great Venetian families fortunes. Many of the funds in the Church of Saint Mark were assigned "in perpetuity", so the Procuratia became ever more powerful as the centuries rolled on,

The Venetians also sponsored—the rise of junior powers in Florence such as the Peruzzi bankers and the House of Bardi. Now that the Venetians had created a monopoly of both precious metals and could determine at any given moment how much gold or silver was in circulation and at what price, they could also change these ratios, as they frequently did, establishing the wildest floating currency exchange system ever.

However, by the end of the 15th Century as Elisa has just demonstrated, things began to change with the rise of the sovereign nation-state under King Louis XI of France [1423-1483] and Henry VII of England [1457-1509]. Apart from uplifting the population into a new cultural dynamic of the common good, one of the biggest threats to the Venetians was the fact that both France and England under the leadership of Louis and Henry, took control of their own coinage, which is the cornerstone of developing a nation. Being in charge of your own credit to develop one's nation.

During the War of the League of Cambrai from 1510-13, a number of European powers, including the newly-created powerful nation of France, revolted against Venice's imperial power and almost wiped her out.

That life-or-death crisis for Venice, which had actually been caused by the establishment of nation-states for the first time and exacerbated by the discovery of new and more effective routes to the Indies around the Cape of Good Hope, set in motion a chain of developments which exploded in 1582, one of the biggest factional fights in the history of Venice. This was between the *old houses* of Venice, the Vecchi, and the *new houses* called the Nuovi, or the "young", the "Giovani".

To be continued...