

Compare these two quotes?
Notice how the insertion of a few EXTRA words changes the meaning.

The world is filled with storm and war and variance. *Yet under one head--the papal power--the people will unite* to oppose God in the person of His witnesses. {Mar 187.1}

Note the dashes above!

The world is filled with storm and war and variance. *Under one head, the papal power, it has united* to oppose God in the person of His faithful witnesses. This union is cemented by the great apostate. {ST, February 7, 1900 par. 3}

"Power was given unto him to *continue* forty and two months." And, says the prophet, "I saw one of his *heads* as it were wounded to death." And again: "He that leadeth into captivity shall *go into captivity*: he that killeth with the sword must be killed with the sword." The forty and two months are the same as the "time and times and the dividing of time," three years and a half, or 1260 days, of Daniel 7—the time during which the papal power was to oppress God's people. This period, as stated in preceding chapters, began with the supremacy of the papacy, A.D. 538, and terminated in 1798. At that time the pope was made captive by the French army, the papal power received its deadly wound, and the prediction was fulfilled, "He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity." {GC 439.2}

On this subject, see remarks on Dan.7:7, where they are shown to represent the ten kingdoms that arose out of the Roman empire. They receive power one hour (Gr. , hora, an indefinite space of time) with the beast; that is, they reign a length of time *contemporaneously* with the beast, during which time they give to it their power and strength. {1897 UrS, DAR 660s.2}

Croly, in his work on the Apocalypse, offers this comment on verse 12: "The prediction defines the epoch of the papacy by the formation of the ten kingdoms of the Western empire. 'They shall receive power *one hour* with the beast.' The translation should be, 'in the same era' (). The ten kingdoms shall be contemporaneous, in contradistinction to the 'seven heads,' which were successive." {1897 UrS, DAR 661.1}

This language must refer to the past, when the kingdoms of Europe were unanimous in giving their support to the papacy. *It cannot apply to the future; for after the commencement of the time of the end, they were to take away its dominion to consume and to destroy it unto the end* (Dan.7:26); *and the treatment which these kingdoms are finally to bestow upon the papacy, is expressed in verse 16, where it is said that they shall hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh, and burn her with fire*. A Part of this work the nations of Europe have been doing for years. The completion of it, burning her with fire, will be accomplished when Rev.18:8 is fulfilled. {1897 UrS, DAR 661.2}

These make war with the Lamb. Verse 14. Here we are carried into the future, to the time of the great and final battle; for at this time the Lamb has assumed the title of King of kings and

Lord of lords, a title which he does not assume till his second coming. Chapter 19:11-16. {1897 UrS, DAR 661.3}

What is the head?

The seven heads are explained to be, first, seven mountains, and then seven kings, or forms of government; for the expression in verse 10, "And there are seven kings," should read, and these are seven kings. "Five are fallen," says the angel, or passed away; "one is;" the sixth was then reigning; another was to come, and continue for a short space; and when the beast reappeared in its bloody and persecuting character, it was to be under the eighth form of government, which was to continue till the beast went into perdition. ***The seven forms of government that have existed in the Roman empire*** are usually enumerated as follows: (1) kingly; (2) consular; (3) decemvirate; (4) dictatorial; (5) triumvirate; (6) imperial; and (7) papal. Kings, consuls, decemvirs, dictators, and triumvirs had passed away in John's day. He was living under the imperial form. Two more were to arise after his time. One was only to continue a short space, and hence is not usually reckoned among the heads; while the last, which is usually denominated the seventh, is in reality the eighth. The head which was to succeed the imperial, and continue a short space, could not be the papal; for that has continued longer than all the rest put together. We understand, therefore, that the papal head is the eighth, and that a head of short continuance intervened between the imperial and papal. In fulfilment of this, we read that after the imperial form had been abolished, there was a ruler who for about the space of sixty years governed Rome under the title of the "Exarch of Ravenna." Thus we have the connecting link between the imperial and papal heads. The third phase of the beast that was, and is not, and yet is, is the Roman power under the rule of the papacy; and in this form it ascends out of the bottomless pit, or bases its power on pretensions which have no foundation but a mixture of Christian errors and pagan superstitions. {1897 UrS, DAR 659.3}

But notice EG White's other comments to help us find which of these two are correct.

* "I saw that the two-horned beast had a dragon's mouth, and that his power was in his head, and that the decree would go out of his mouth. ***Then I saw the Mother of Harlots; that the mother was not the daughters, but separate and distinct from them. She has had her day, and it is past, and her daughters, the Protestant sects, were the next to come on the stage and act out the same mind that the mother had when she persecuted the saints.*** I saw that as the mother has been ***declining***, in power, the daughters had been ***growing***, and soon ***they will exercise*** the power once exercised by the mother." {SpM 1.4}

* ***At the time when the Papacy, robbed of its strength, was forced to desist from persecution,*** John beheld a ***new power*** coming up to echo the dragon's ***voice***, and carry forward the same cruel and blasphemous work. ***This power, the last that is to wage war against the church and the law***

of God, is represented by a beast with lamblike horns. The beasts preceding it had risen from the sea; but this came up out of the earth, representing the peaceful rise of the nation which it symbolized--the United States. {ST, February 8, 1910 par. 5}

* But the stern tracings of the prophetic pencil reveal a change in this peaceful scene. The beast with lamb-like horns speaks with the voice of a dragon, and "exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him." The spirit of persecution manifested by *paganism and the papacy* is again to be revealed. Prophecy declares that this power will say "to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast." [Revelation 13:14.] The *image* is made to the *first or leopard-like beast*, which is the one brought to view in the *third* angel's message. By this first beast is represented the Roman Church, an ecclesiastical body clothed with civil power, having authority to punish all dissenters. The image to the beast represents another religious body clothed with similar power. The formation of this image is the work of that beast whose peaceful rise and mild professions render it so striking a symbol of the United States. *Here* is to be found an *image* of the papacy. *When* the churches of our land, uniting upon such points of faith as are held by them in common, shall influence the State to enforce their decrees and sustain their institutions, *then will Protestant America have formed an image of the Roman hierarchy. Then the true church will be assailed by persecution*, as were God's ancient people. Almost every century furnishes examples of what bigotry and malice can do under a plea of serving God by protecting the rights of Church and State. *Protestant churches that have followed in the steps of Rome by forming alliance with worldly powers have manifested a similar desire to restrict liberty of conscience*. In the seventeenth century thousands of non-conformist ministers suffered under the rule of the Church of England. *Persecution always follows religious favoritism on the part of secular governments*. {4SP 277.2}{4Sp 503.3}{GC 445.1}{GC88 445.1}{D&R 546.3; 518.2-519.3}

As the Protestant churches reject the clear, Scriptural arguments in defense of God's law, they will long to silence those whose faith they cannot overthrow by the Bible. Though they blind their own eyes to the fact, they are now adopting a course which will lead to the persecution of those who conscientiously refuse to do what the rest of the Christian world are doing, and acknowledge the claims of the papal sabbath. {GC 592.2}

* The Protestant churches, having received doctrines that the Word of God condemns, will bring these to the front and force them upon the consciences of the people, just as the papal authorities urged their dogmas upon the advocates of truth in Luther's time. The same battle is again to be fought, and every soul will be called upon to decide upon which side of the controversy he or she will be found. {CTr 323.5}

* *The so-called Christian world is to be the theater of great and decisive actions. Men in authority will enact laws controlling the conscience, after the example of the Papacy*. Babylon will make all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication. Every nation will be involved. Of this time John the Revelator declares: {1MR 296.5}

"The merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies. And I

heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, My people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities. Reward her even as she rewarded you, and double unto her according to her works: in the cup which she hath filled fill to her double. How much she hath glorified herself, and lived deliciously, so much torment and sorrow give her; for she saith in her heart, I sit a queen, and am no widow, and shall see no sorrow" (Revelation 18:3-7). {1MR 296.6}

"The fallen denominational churches comprise babylon". {TM 61.3} also PP124

See study WhoFormsThe Image.