



## Paganism

GREAT = 3173 **megav** megas (meg'-as)

1a) large, spacious, long, stature and age, old, 1b)  
of number and quantity: numerous, large, abundant. 1c)  
of age: the elder, violent, mighty, strong.  
4b) of things which overstep the province of a created being, proud (presumptuous) things, full of arrogance, derogatory to the majesty of God.

### Length of kingdoms:

Babylon = 66 years

Medo-Persia = 200 years

Greece = 163 years

Pagan Rome = 643 years

Pagan Rome most violent = Daniel 7:7

Pagan Rome derogatory to God = John 19:5

In relation to being a “great” mountain (kingdom), Pagan Rome was the oldest, most violent, most derogatory to God (crucified Christ/His disciples) of all the previous kingdoms.

Burning = 2545 **kaiw** kaio (kah'-yo)

1) to set on fire, light, burning

2) to burn, consume with fire. To be cast out John 15:6 lost.

Cast = 906 **ballw** ballo (bal'-lo)—

1) to throw or let go of a thing without caring where it falls, 1a)  
to scatter, to throw.

## 7 Trumpets—part 3

REVELATION 8:8—“AND THE SECOND ANGEL SOUNDED, AND AS IT WERE A GREAT MOUNTAIN BURNING WITH FIRE WAS CAST INTO THE SEA: AND THE THIRD PART OF THE SEA BECAME BLOOD.”

2<sup>ND</sup> TRUMPET—PAGANISM/PAGAN ROME

### Mountain = Kingdom

“... and the stone that smote the image became a **great mountain**, and filled the whole earth” (Daniel 2:35).

### Burning Mountain = Judgment on a Government/Kingdom

“Behold, I am against thee, O **destroying mountain**, saith the LORD, which destroyest all the earth: and I will stretch out mine hand upon thee, and roll thee down from the rocks, and will make thee a **burnt mountain**” (Jeremiah 51:25).

### Fire = Judgment (see previous definition)

### Sea = Peoples, Nations, Multitudes and Tongues

“And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues” (Revelation 17:15).

### Seas = Among the Nations, Peoples, Tongues of Europe

### Pagan Rome Divided into Europe = Daniel 7:24

### Blood = Death

“Whoso sheddeth man’s blood, by man shall his blood be shed: for in the image of God made He man” (Genesis 9:6).

“And the LORD shall return his blood upon his own head...” (1 Kings 2:32).

“And I will judge thee, as women that break wedlock and shed blood are judged; and I will give thee blood in fury and jealousy” (Ezekiel 16:38).

### Summary verse:

“Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this which is done to the **fig tree** [symbol of Jewish nation Jesus cursed], but also if ye shall say unto **this mountain** [symbol of Pagan Rome], Be thou removed, and be thou **cast into the sea**; it shall be done” (Matthew 21:21)(The Jews and the Romans were the two powers persecuting God’s people when Jesus spoke these words.)



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### SYMBOLS IDENTIFIED:

- Mountain = Kingdom
- Great = Long, Old, Violent, Strong, Against God
- Burning with fire = Consume
- Cast = Scatter, Throw
- Sea = Peoples, Nations
- Third part = Deceived
- Blood = Death

**Summary—Pagan Rome (great mountain) died (blood) not by being conquered by another single power or nation but was destroyed (burned with fire) by being swallowed up by (cast into seas) the various peoples, nations, tongues and multitudes of Europe.**

**Present Truth (History Repeated)—In the present day the New Rome (U.S.) is being swallowed up by the nations. It is losing its sovereignty and freedom.**

**REVELATION 8:9—“AND THE THIRD PART OF THE CREATURES WHICH WERE IN THE SEA, AND HAD LIFE, DIED; AND THE THIRD PART OF THE SHIPS WERE DESTROYED.”**

### **Third Part = Deceived/Fallen/Wicked**

“And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth...” (Revelation 12:4).

### **Creatures = People who Heard the Gospel**

“If ye continue in the faith grounded and settled, and be not moved away from the hope of the gospel, which ye have heard, and which was preached to every creature which is under heaven; whereof I Paul am made a minister” (Colossians 1:23).

### **Sea = Peoples, Nations, Multitudes and Tongues**

“And he saith unto me, The waters which thou sawest, where the whore sitteth, are peoples, and multitudes, and nations, and tongues” (Revelation 17:15).

### **Life = God’s Sustaining Power**

“... He gives to all life, breath, and all things” (Acts 17:25, NKJV) .  
“For in Him we live, and move, and have our being...” (Acts 17:28).

### **Ships = Faith/Experience in Christ**

“Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith have made shipwreck” (1 Timothy 1:19).



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“This hope [in God] we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil” (Hebrews 6: 19, NKJV).

**Summary— Those who were deceived (third part) among the nations (seas) who had heard the gospel (creatures) and had been sustained by God (life) died. And many were deceived (third part) who had faith (ships) and compromised the truth making shipwreck of faith (destroyed).**

**Present truth (history repeated)—Today many who have heard the gospel during this probationary time fall under the deceptions of satan. They compromise the truth and make shipwreck of their faith.**

### Historical Notes—2<sup>ND</sup> TRUMPET—PAGAN ROME

“Satan therefore laid his plans to war more successfully against the government of God by planting his banner in the Christian church. **If the followers of Christ could be deceived and led to displease God, then their strength, fortitude, and firmness would fail, and they would fall an easy prey.** The great adversary now endeavored to gain by artifice what he had failed to secure by force. Persecution ceased, and in its stead were substituted the dangerous allurements of temporal prosperity and worldly honor. Idolaters were led to receive a part of the Christian faith, while they rejected other essential truths” (*The Great Controversy*, p. 42).

**“Most of the Christians at last consented to lower their standard, and a union was formed between Christianity and paganism...** Unsound doctrines, superstitious rites, and idolatrous ceremonies were incorporated into her faith and worship. As the followers of Christ united with idolaters, the Christian religion became corrupted, and the church lost her purity and power. **There were some, however, who were not misled by these delusions. They still maintained their fidelity to the Author of truth and worshiped God alone**” (*The Great Controversy*, p. 43).

“When Christians consented to unite with those who were but half converted from paganism, they entered upon a path which led further and further from the truth. **Satan exulted that he had succeeded in deceiving so large a number of the followers of Christ.** He then brought his power to bear more fully upon these, and inspired them to persecute those who remained true to God” (*The Great Controversy*, p. 45).

“The history of the early church testified to the fulfillment of the Saviour’s words. The powers of earth and hell arrayed themselves against Christ in the person of His followers. **Paganism foresaw that should the gospel triumph, her temples and altars would be swept away; therefore she summoned her forces to destroy Christianity. The fires of persecution were kindled.**



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**Christians were stripped of their possessions and driven from their homes.** They “endured a great fight of afflictions.” Hebrews 10:32. They “had trial of cruel mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment.” Hebrews 11:36. Great numbers sealed their testimony with their blood. Noble and slave, rich and poor, learned and ignorant, were alike slain without mercy” (*The Great Controversy*, p. 39)

**“These persecutions, beginning under Nero about the time of the martyrdom of Paul, continued with greater or less fury for centuries.**

Christians were falsely accused of the most dreadful crimes and declared to be the cause of great calamities—famine, pestilence, and earthquake. As they became the objects of popular hatred and suspicion, informers stood ready, for the sake of gain, to betray the innocent. They were condemned as rebels against the empire, as foes of religion, and pests to society. Great numbers were thrown to wild beasts or burned alive in the amphitheaters. Some were crucified; others were covered with the skins of wild animals and thrust into the arena to be torn by dogs. Their punishment was often made the chief entertainment at public fetes. Vast multitudes assembled to enjoy the sight and greeted their dying agonies with laughter and applause” (*The Great Controversy*, p. 40.1)