

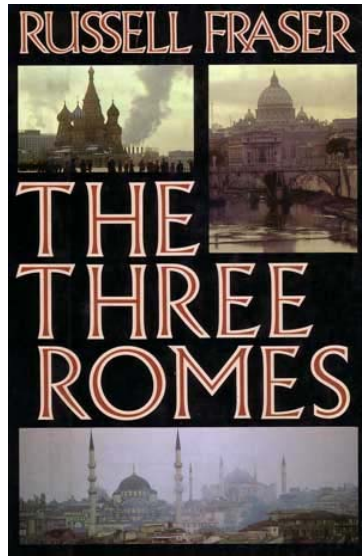
#45 The Legs of Iron – Moscow, the Third Rome

After the fall of the Greek Orthodox Byzantine (Eastern Roman) Empire to the Ottoman Turks on May 29, 1453, the mantle for the continuation of *both* (a) the Eastern Roman Empire, and (b) a Christian Empire of the Orthodox Church, fell on the Russian Empire.

Key Understanding #1: *Moscow, the Third Rome.*

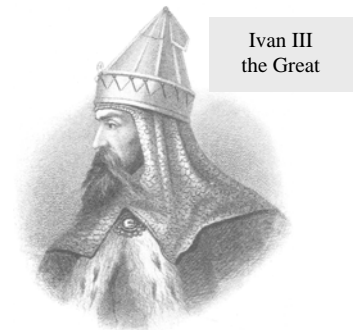
Constantinople had been called New Rome, meaning the Second Rome. Moscow, as the political capital of the Russian Empire at that time, and the protector of the Russian Orthodox faith, was described by the Russians

themselves as the Third Rome. Simply, the Russian Empire and Moscow were replacing the Byzantine Empire and Constantinople, and were extensions of the ‘eastern’ Leg of Iron of Daniel 2:40.



*Daniel 2:40 (KJV) And THE FOURTH KINGDOM SHALL BE STRONG AS IRON [the Legs of Iron Roman Empire, extending through the Western Roman Empire, which ended in 476 A.D., and the Eastern Roman Empire, which ended in 1453 A.D. **The Leg of Iron of the Eastern Roman Empire was further extended to include the life of the Russian Empire**]: forasmuch as iron breaketh in pieces and subdueth all things: and as iron that breaketh all these, shall it break in pieces and bruise.*

Key Understanding #2: *The ‘anointing’ of Moscow as the Third Rome.* The ‘anointing’ of Moscow as the Third Rome, with the Russian Orthodox faith being the official faith of the land, specifically occurred during the time of Ivan III, called Ivan the Great – who married Sophia, niece of the last Byzantine emperor – and his grandson, Ivan IV, called Ivan the Terrible. [We will soon be addressing and summarizing all of that.]



Here is the first paragraph from Wikipedia on the subject of the **Third Rome**:

The idea of Moscow being the **Third Rome** was popular since the early Russian Tsars. Within decades after the Fall of Constantinople to Mehmed II of the Ottoman Empire on May 29, 1453, some were nominating Moscow as the "Third Rome", or new "New Rome". Stirrings of this sentiment began during the reign of Ivan III, Grand Duke of Moscow, who had married Sophia Paleologue. **Sophia was a niece of Constantine XI, the last Eastern Roman Emperor. Ivan III could thus claim to be the heir of the fallen Eastern Roman Empire.**

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