


## #51 The Legs of Iron – World War I “ends” the Legs of Iron of both the Eastern Roman Empire and Western Roman Empire

Four great empires (see the map *below*) met their end as a consequence of World War I. They were the Russian Empire, the Austrian Empire (at that time the Austrian-Hungarian Empire), the German Empire, and the Ottoman (Turkish) Empire.



 European Alliances on the Eve of World War I. Alliance systems divided Europe into two great blocs with few countries remaining neutral.

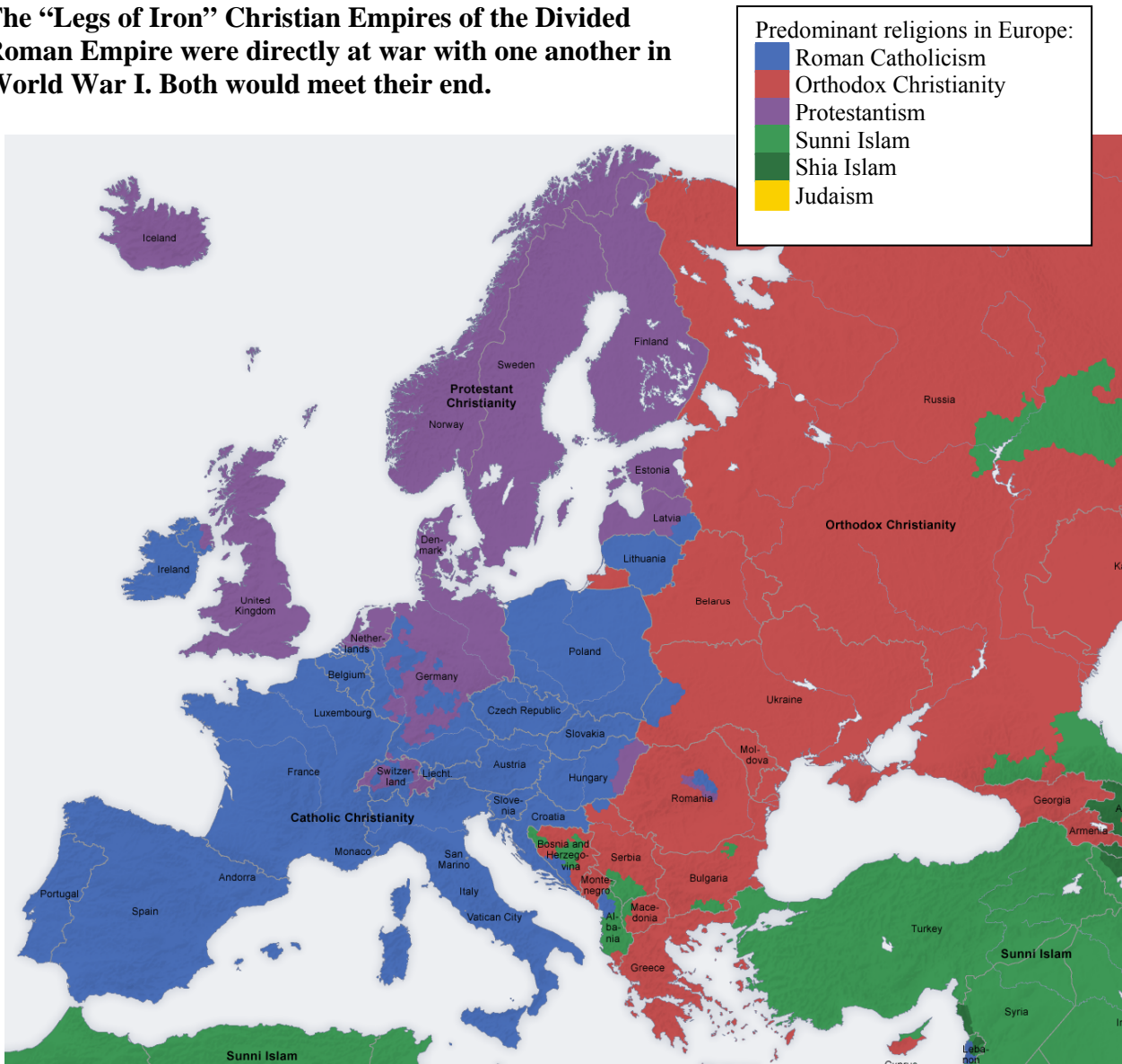
We are addressing these World War I understandings slightly prematurely because we have not yet covered the Western Roman Empire. Nonetheless, it is profitable to at this time gain the glimpse of key understandings concerning World War I.

**Key Understanding #1: World War I “ends” the Legs of Iron of both the Eastern Roman Empire and Western Roman Empire. One of the Lord’s major purposes through World War I was to “end” the Leg of Iron of the Eastern Roman Empire, represented by the demise of the Russian Empire and its Romanov Dynasty, and “end” the Leg of Iron of the Western Roman Empire, represented by the demise of the Hapsburg (also spelled Habsburg) Austrian-Hungarian Empire, which had served as the seat of the Holy Roman Empire of the West.**

[Note: In the early years of the war, 1914-1917, the Russian Empire was allied with Britain and France vs. the Central Powers, which included the Austrian-Hungarian Empire, the German Empire, and the Ottoman Empire.]

**Key Understanding #2: *The protectors of the Eastern Orthodox Church vs. the protectors of the Roman Catholic Church.*** In World War I, the *Eastern Leg of the Roman Empire*, the Russian Romanovs, protectors of the Eastern Orthodox faith, were pitted against the *Western Leg of the Roman Empire*, the Austrian Hapsburgs, the historical protectors over the past several hundred years of the Roman Catholic faith. [See the map *below* which shows the traditional religious majorities by region in Europe.]

**The “Legs of Iron” Christian Empires of the Divided Roman Empire were directly at war with one another in World War I. Both would meet their end.**



***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 (Eastern

**Orthodox) 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.*

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