## #55 The Legs of Iron - The Northern Capitals of the Western and Eastern Roman Empires

The city of <u>Aachen</u> was the capital of Charlemagne's Empire. Aachen, located in modern day Germany close to the borders of the Netherlands and Belgium, was the capital of Charlemagne's empire. Charlemagne was born in Aachen in 742. Charlemagne's tomb is there as well, in a magnificent cathedral built by Charlemagne in the 700's. The French call the city Aix-la-Chapelle.

The Aachen Cathedral has survived since the times of Charlemagne. The foundation of the cathedral was laid after 768 A.D. Pope Leo III consecrated the palace chapel, as it was called, in 805 A.D.





In A.D. 768, Charlemagne and his brother Carloman became joint rulers of the Frankish kingdom, which covered present-day Belgium, France, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, and part of western Germany. Charlemagne's share of the kingdom consisted of Austrasia, Neustria, and half of Aquitaine. Carloman died in 771, and Charlemagne became king of all the Franks. He enlarged his empire by conquering Bavaria, the Kingdom of the Lombards, Saxony, Carinthia, the Papal States, Spoleto, Corsica, the Belearic Islands, and the Spanish March.

Key Understanding: The extensions of the Western and Eastern Roman Empires had capitals which were located further north. What do we see as concerns the location of the capitals of the Christian Empires of the Legs of Iron of Rome? In the Western Roman Empire, which came to be represented by the Holy Roman Empire, the political capital moved north from Rome (and Milan) to Aachen, Germany, in the 800's. In the Eastern Roman Empire, which came to be represented by the Russian Empire, the capital moved north from Constantinople to Moscow, in the 1400's.

Thus, <u>Germany</u> and <u>Russia</u> became the political seats of the Legs of Iron Roman Empire, and they were both 'holy'.

[Note: Some historians say the Holy Roman Empire began with Charlemagne in 800 A.D., while others say the Holy Roman Empire began in 962 with King Otto I of Germany. We will soon be clarifying that. The Lord has us choosing to use Charlemagne as the beginning of the Holy Roman Empire for prophetic reasons, which we will also be clarifying.]

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 Western Roman Empire was extended to include the life of the Holy Roman Empire, begun by Charlemagne in 800 A.D. Its political power was generally German based in the earlier centuries, and Austrian based in the later centuries through the Habsburg Dynasty. In the meantime, 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.

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