


**#58 The Legs of Iron – The crowning of King Otto I of Germany in 962 A.D. by the Papacy officially begins the Holy Roman Empire**

Some scholars trace the origins of the Holy Roman Empire to Charlemagne when he was crowned Emperor of Rome by Pope Leo III in 800 A.D. But the empire fell apart after Charlemagne died in 814.



**Key Understanding:** *King Otto I (above) of Germany was the founder of the continuous ‘holy’ Roman Empire. In the mid-900’s, King Otto I of the German part of Charlemagne’s Split gained control of most of northern and central Italy (just as Charlemagne had gained control of much of Italy). The Frankish Charlemagne had been crowned by Pope Leo III in 800 as Emperor of the Romans, and similarly Otto I of Germany was crowned by Pope John XII in 962, and became the founder of the continuous ‘holy’ Roman Empire. The ‘holy’ Roman Empire became more officially known to history as the Holy Roman Empire during the 1200’s.*



 *The Empire of Otto the Great, ca. 963. The Ottonian Empire included not only Germany but Slavic lands to the east and disputed regions such as Lorraine to the west.*

#58–Doc 1 is an excellent map of the German ‘holy’ Roman Empire in the year 1000.

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***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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