

MILESTONES 2019

Don
Pearce

43rd
edition



MILESTONES TO THE KINGDOM

***A Review of the
World Events of
2019 in the Light
of Bible Prophecy***

Don Pearce

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Preface

Once again we are very grateful for the annual Milestones that bro Don writes so reliably. It sums up the last year and opens up prospects for the year ahead.

Some three years ago the United Kingdom voted upon the question of continued membership of the EU (European Union). Prime Minister David Cameron, had promised this referendum to the nation and so he finally acted on his word. He was personally against withdrawal from the EU as were many influential leaders and business people, but since the question was coming up more frequently the Prime Minister felt compelled to consult the nation, though he campaigned for Remain.

The result was 52% against the EU and 48% in favour of remaining in the EU. Mr. Cameron resigned from office: the country generally was surprised and many even called the result in question. The Conservative Party generally was shocked and disappointed but chose another Prime Minister in Mrs May, though she, herself, had voted for Remain. The next twelve months witnessed a Parliament in unprecedented confusion, until another leader, Boris Johnson, was appointed. With absolute determination and a further general election (very much in his favour) he set the Parliament on a definite path to Brexit (leaving the EU). The date for Britain's withdrawal from the European Union is set for 31st January 2020, at midnight!

What does all this mean? Where have all these strong passions arisen?

The English Channel may be only 25 miles wide, but it symbolises more than a turbulent narrow seaway. 2000 years ago the British Isles were part of the Roman Empire and remained that way for another 400 years or so. There was no Anglican Church, just the Roman Catholic Church, represented from London to York. Constantine was born in York. Britain was just a part of the western quarter of the Empire and received her governmental directions from Rome (and then later from Constantinople) and her religious instruction from the Papacy in Rome. All roads led to Rome and to this day many of these roads are found throughout Britain, straight, well made and purposeful.

Yet the teachings of the Vatican were not always universally accepted. Various peoples found themselves unable to accept the excesses of the Papacy and the lavishly decorated buildings of the churches and cathedrals and the figures and statues that were treated as though they were living saints or even idols. Then there are the confessions and special services of varying kinds all of which had no Biblical basis. Presiding over their own dioceses the bishops lived like lords on their wealthy estates. One fifth of the land surface of France was owned by the Church and ruled by the bishops. In the "great 14th century" there was a distinct rise in the independence of mind and worship in England and more western countries of Europe. Men like Wycliffe wrote many highly critical essays on the spurious teachings of the church and the mental slavery of the congregations. Wycliffe wrote the first English Bible, at the cost of his life. King John refused the Pope's rental charges! Tyndale was a great man of faith and wisdom and he in the 15th century was the first to translate the New Testament

(and some of the Old Testament) into English. He sought refuge by hiding in Flanders but was eventually captured by officers of the Church and died on the burning stake as he, in his last words, prayed for the opening of the King of England's eyes.

Then early in the next century King James I sponsored the translation of all the Bible into the plain language of the day. The printing of the 1611 King James Bible would be the greatest act of the English government and the most outstanding contrast to the general situation in European countries where the Pope reigned from his Peter's Chair over the millions of Catholic devotees. The Bible is the Word of God, but has never been the authority in their congregations because the Church declared the doctrinal teaching of the Pope to be infallible.

For 300-500 years the UK had given leadership to some forty-eight countries around the world. In Europe since 1961 they had been relegated to one country in twenty-eight others. Britain had twice gone to war for the freedom of Europe and for her own Commonwealth. Is it surprising that by 2016 there was resentment at the minor influence they had over EU decisions that affected them in many ways? Where was her Commonwealth from whom she formerly received so much of her supplies? Britain had been mother to many countries around the world, who spoke her language, operated in her rules and legislation. Westminster House looks splendid alongside the waters of the Thames, but to many Londoners it has very little to do with the business of the day. Across the Channel in the city of Brussels the EU Council and the EU Commission and the EU Parliament and the Council of the EU and the EU Court, look after the vast amount of Britain's decisions and mix up the decisions with twenty-eight other countries. Where is her Majesty the Queen in all this unseen administration and government?

It was the merchants of Tarshish that in the bleakest hours of WWI lifted the Jewish people out of 1900 years of international servitude. The God of Israel says that He has further responsibilities for her and His prophet Ezekiel has made the matter clear. Britain has already expressed her pleasure to trade enthusiastically with Israel. Israel needs friends—she has many enemies. We have seen great things in 2019 and no doubt we shall see some pulling together of those countries of Empire and the Commonwealth that have had such a common history.

Brexit?—of course. Isaiah 23:18 “And her merchandise and her hire shall be holiness to Yahweh: it shall not be treasured nor laid up; for her merchandise shall be for them that dwell before Yahweh, to eat sufficiently, and for durable clothing.”

If we know these things happy are we if we live up to them for the Lord is surely near.

Brian Luke

Secretary

January 2020

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• Prophecy Days • MP3, Kindle and iPad versions of <i>Milestones 2019</i>	

Abbreviations used

EU European Union. Was the Common Market, EEC, then EC, now EU
m = million; **bn** = billion; **GDP** = Gross Domestic Product; **WEB** = World English Bible.
\$1 = £0.76; €0.89; A\$1.44; CA\$1.30; NZ\$1.50 at 06-Jan-20 rates.
 \$1 million = £759,000, \$1 billion = £759,000,000 approx. \$ always US\$.

Author’s important notes

I would like to especially thank my family, Bre. Kevin Allison, Alan Clarke and the CSSS for their helpful comments on the draft. It is all put together in a few weeks at the end of the year, so please bear with its imperfections! *Milestones* quotes extensively from overseas sources, and as **I retain original spellings, etc., check whether it is a quote before blaming my excellent proof-readers!** My thanks to Bro Philip Weatherall for Ch. 15—the exhortation.

Conventional religious terminology is used, sometimes put within “ ”, but often not. Readers will appreciate my understanding on the falseness of many of these terms. Conventional

names are used: e.g. West Bank, Palestinians, Pope. Dates are always day-month-year. Any items in **bold** are my emphasis, i.e. not emboldened in the original. I am very grateful for items sent in; please ensure date and source indicated.

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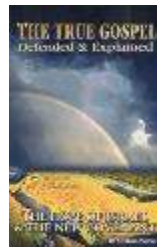
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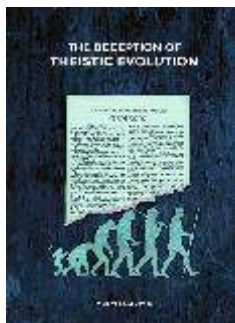
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The Deception of Theistic Evolution.

Bre Mark Allfree, Matt Davies

Pub. 2017. 174 pages

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See inside back cover for details.

Chapter 1:

A SYNOPSIS OF Milestones 2019

2019 has been yet another action-packed year for Bible student Watchmen!

We have been saying this for the past few years! The pace of change continues unrelentingly. We know there is an end goal and behind the scenes angelic hands under the direction of the Lord Jesus, work to ensure God's Plan is fulfilled.

We can only stand in awe at the incredible foreknowledge of God, who knowing from before creation His outworking plan, caused the prophets of old to record things which were largely hidden from their generation, but now are being clearly seen.

We have a wonderful Biblical canvas upon which to paint the many and diverse happenings around the world, which would appear to be totally unrelated. However, with Bible in hand, we can see that they are all steps within God's overall plan, that will bring about the dramatic revelation of the Son of God as Israel's Messiah and King of the World! How thrilled we should be to see that God's Word is true and active and so relevant to our lives today! At a time when man refuses to even acknowledge the prospect of a Creator God, He has given ample testimony to His existence and power. Hence the severity of God's judgments upon a godless world

The Structure for *Milestones 2019*

- Ch. 2** looks at what was relevant 35 years ago from *Milestones 1984*.
- Ch. 3** looks at relevant prophecies for our times, setting the scene as we explore in later chapters how these are being fulfilled in our day.
- Ch. 4** takes a latter-day prophecy and looks at how it fits today's situation.
- Ch. 5** looks at a second, very relevant prophecy for our times.
- Ch. 6** takes us through Brexit and its torturous path to leaving the EU.
- Ch. 7** looks at Europe's new team ready to form the European *Beast*.
- Ch. 8** assesses the Vatican and her role as the *False Prophet*.
- Ch. 9** takes us to developments in Russia and also her advancing M.E. footprints.
- Ch. 10** surveys Gog's companions of Eze. 38 and their growing alignment.
- Ch. 11** sees the many enemies Israel faces.
- Ch. 12** examines Israel's many friends.
- Ch. 13** is headed: "Israel—an incredible powerhouse".
- Ch. 14** maps out the way Britain is preparing for her post-Brexit role.
- Ch. 15** is an exhortation entitled: "Warnings for the Last Days".