A Labour minister who sat on the committee which drafted the original EU Constitution has warned that the adoption of the new Lisbon Treaty is likely to create a *" democratic deficit "* in the European Union. Gisela Stuart was appointed by former Prime Minister Tony Blair to the Presidium of the Convention on the Future of Europe, chaired by EU Constitution author and Freemason, Valéry Giscard d'Estaing. Miss Stuart and her conservative colleague, David Heathcoat-Amory, had attempted to introduce a modicum of democracy into the original constitution, but they were overruled by the committee. After its initial rejection by France and Holland, the constitution was subsequently repackaged in two documents, an Amending Treaty and a Charter on Fundamental Rights. The Labour party had made an election pledge that Britain would hold a referendum on the adoption of the constitution. They later reneged on that promise, claiming that since Britain was only signing up to the Amending Treaty and not the Charter on Fundamental Rights, that the UK would not be constitutionally affected by its adoption. But it is the Amending Treaty, and not the Charter on Fundamental Rights, which will change forever the way Britain is governed. The ratification of the Amending Treaty will pave the way for the creation of the permanent posts of EU President and Foreign Minister. Essentially unelected and unaccountable to the vast majority of European citizens, the EU President and Foreign Minister will be nominated by the heads of the EU states, with their positions being renewable once after a period of two and a half years. The treaty will also give the European Union its own legal identity on the world stage, a development which will adversely affect British foreign interests. British Prime Minister Gordon Brown claimed that there would be no more changes to European institutions for the foreseeable future after the signing of the Lisbon Treaty. But he failed to mention the fact that the ' self-amending ' nature of the Lisbon Treaty means that there will be no need for debate on further European integration. Article 308 essentially gives the EU the power to 'wish for infinite wishes'. If the EU Commission feels that EU states have not provided them with the necessary powers to attain an objective mentioned in the treaties, and the EU heads of state are in agreement, then the Commission can automatically usurp the required powers from the nation states without the approval of national parliaments. These provisions have many in Europe rightly concerned that the Lisbon Treaty constitutes a power-grab by the European elite, and that this document is just a stepping stone towards the establishment of a European super state .

**Quote:** *""The nature of democracy is really at stake," she said. "My basic test of democracy is: can I get rid of them? By casting a vote, you can change the people who are in control of you." The former law lecturer and MP for Birmingham Edgbaston added: "Lisbon does not give you, as a citizen, the means to control the executive or the*

*politicians who decide on your behalf, and that's the hurdle it fails on." The treaty contains a "ratchet clause" which means that national vetoes - such as that possessed by Britain - can be scrapped without the need for referendums or political summits. Voters will also be unable to remove a powerful new EU president, who will be selected by EU leaders rather than by a poll of the electorates in member states.*

As you can see, with the adoption of this new European treaty, the way is being prepared for the arrival of the person the Bible calls the Man of Sin (2nd Thessalonians 2:3). The Bible teaches us that during the last days, a final world empire would arise out of the ashes of the old Roman Empire. The prophecy of Daniel speaks of four world empires that would rule over the nation of Israel. They were Babylon (Daniel 2:38), Medo-Persia (Daniel 5:28), Greece (Daniel 8:21) and Rome (Daniel 9:26). Although there have been many other empires that have conquered the Middle East, only these four have ruled over the Jewish people while Israel was a nation. Other prophecy scholars have claimed that since Rome never ruled over Babylon, Rome can't be considered to be the successor to the first three empires. But the nation of Israel is the key to understanding God's prophetic timeline. The Arabs have never ruled over Israel when it was a nation, so I can't see the final world empire arising out of the Arab world. Indeed I don't think that could ever happen, for it would constitute a reversal of God's promise to the Jewish people. God gave the Arabs land, but He gave the land of Israel to the Jews (Psalm 105:8-11). There are other Scriptures which seem to indicate that the final world empire would arise out of Europe, and of course there are many references in official European literature, coinage and architecture which affirm this. The Bible indicates that this final world empire will devour the whole world (Daniel 7:23). But it will come to its end. For the Bible states that " in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed
", Daniel 2:44. How shall this kingdom be set up, and who will establish it?

Daniel 7:13-14
I saw in the night visions, and, behold, one like the Son of man came with the clouds of heaven, and came to the Ancient of days, and they brought him near before him. And there was given him dominion, and glory, and a kingdom, that all people, nations, and languages, should serve him: his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom that which shall not be destroyed.

Daniel's vision of the Messiah is repeated several times in the New Testament. Jesus Christ referred to it during His trial before Caiaphas (Matthew 24:30). The identity of this 'Son of Man', if it was ever in doubt, is made clear for us in the book of Revelation.

Revelation 5:6
And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent forth into all the earth. And he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sat upon the throne. And when he had taken the book, the four beasts and four and twenty elders fell down before the Lamb, having every one of them harps, and golden vials full of odours, which are the prayers of saints. And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation; And hast made us unto our God kings and priests: and we shall reign on the earth.

There is only one person who is able to forgive sins, and that is the Lord Jesus Christ. He is the Lamb of God, who bore away the sin of the world (John 1:29). He was the one who was slain for us (Isaiah 53:10). He is the one who has redeemed us to God through the blood of His cross (Colossians 1:20). Why don't you turn away from your sins. Trust in Jesus Christ for salvation today, and be translated into the kingdom of God's beloved Son (Colossians 1:13).

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